Erap pal nabbed in ₱2-B 'shabu' bust

STORY ON PAGE A16

P15

ESTRADA arrives at the Veterans Memorial Hospital from Camp Crame.
EDWIN BACASMAS

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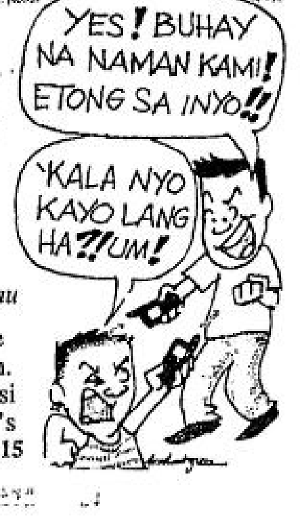
PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLES
Sunday
APRIL 29, 2001 ★ 78 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 140

Text wars, Erap jokes are back

BY J.F. CANUDAY
AND F. GALLARDO
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—The text wars are on again. With jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada's

TEXT/ A15


YES! BUHAY NA NAMAN KAMI! ETONG SA INYO!!
'KALA NYO KAYO LANG HA?!/UM!

Miriam linked to junta plot

Gloria counters AFP 'squarely behind' her administration

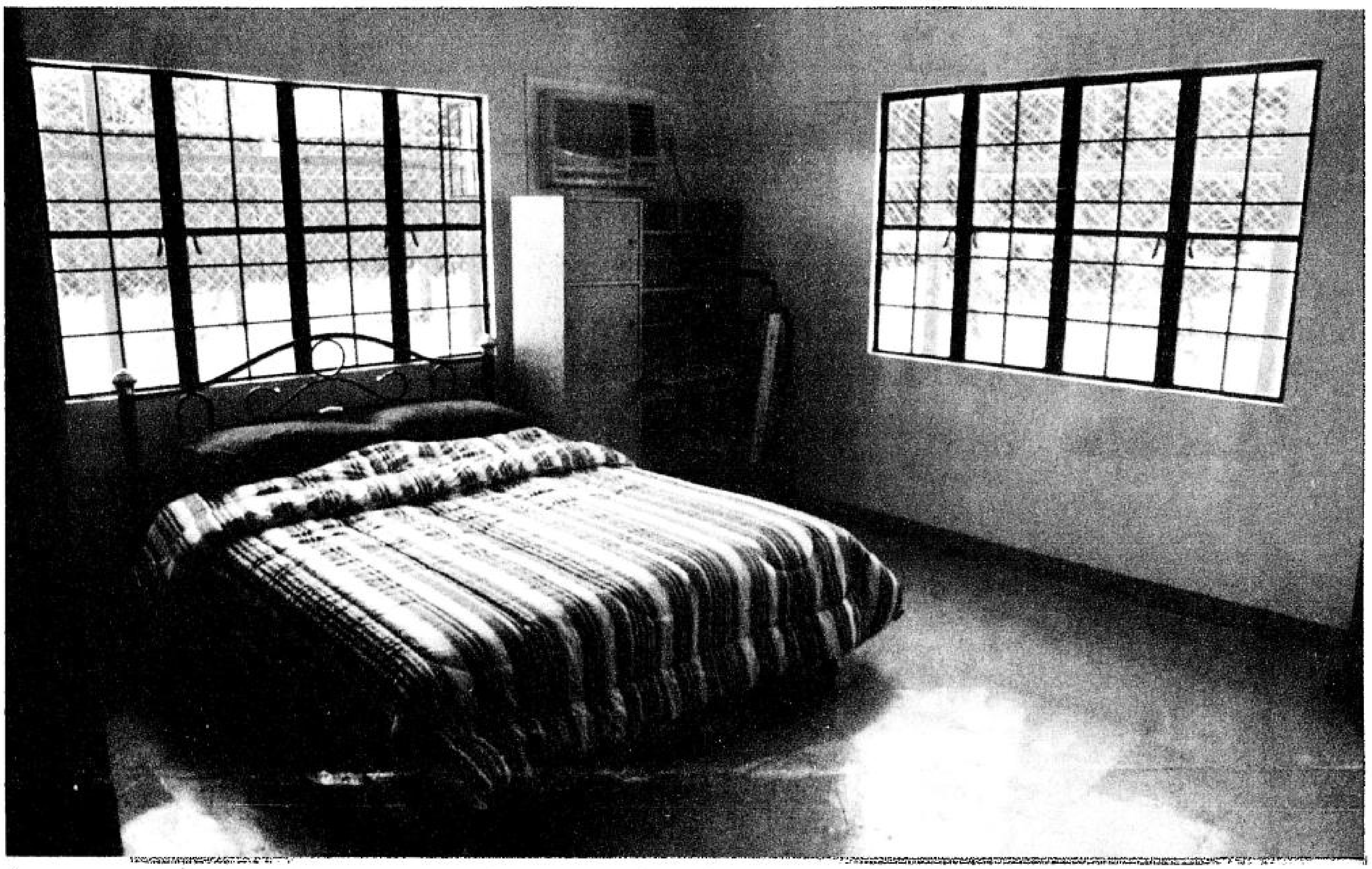
BY AMANDO DORONILA
AND DONNA CUETO

THE MILITARY has discovered an alleged plot by a group led by Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago and her brother, Philippine Air Force chief Lt. Gen. Benjamin Defensor, to use the so-called Edsa III rally of supporters of jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada as a launching pad for a military-civilian junta, according to a senior intelligence officer.

Another INQUIRER source said that Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes confronted the Air Force chief with the report of the alleged plot. Defensor reportedly denied any such plan and pledged his loyalty to the Macapagal administration.

The alleged conspiracy, according to the intelligence officer, includes calling for a snap election wherein Estrada would not run and the opposition's standard bearer would be a top retired general. But the candidate was reportedly unacceptable to the military brass.

MIRIAM/ A16



Lacson to 'Edsa III': Victory is nearly ours

BY DONA Z. PAZZIBUGAN

SENATORIAL candidates backed by Joseph Estrada promised his loyalists massed at Edsa late Friday night that victory was near and that their jailed leader would soon be back in Malacañang.

Panfilo Lacson, former chief of the Philippine National Police, told the crowd that more people from the provinces were coming to Edsa to bolster their demand that Estrada be reinstalled as president.

He said two ships were on the way to Manila from Mindanao, bearing more Estrada supporters.

"*Konting panahon na lang magtatagumpay na tayo* (A little more time and victory is ours)!" he declared.

His speech, as well as those of the other Puwersa ng Masa candidates, was aired over the Iglesia ni Cristo (INC)-owned channel Net 25, which has been devoting 24-hour coverage to the loyalist rallies at Edsa since these started Wednesday night.

As of 7 p.m. last night, police estimated the crowd at between 17,000 and 20,000.

In her own speech Friday, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago urged the loyalists to attack Camp Crame should the PNP transfer Estrada from his detention cell there to the special prison facility built for him at Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

But nothing came out of Santiago's cry, and in a statement she issued yesterday, Estrada's wife Luisa Ejercito said: "There is no such nonsense as the supporters of Erap invading Camp Crame."

Santiago called President Macapagal-Arroyo "*tarantada* (crazy)" several times in her speech until Net 25 took it upon itself to bleep her cuss words.

LACSON/ A15

THE LIFESTLE under reduced circumstances for ex-President Estrada and son, Jinggoy, would be intimate and inmate-friendly within the confines of a blue and white bungalow inside the secure premises of Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. A queen-sized bed dominates the master bedroom (above) with fresh bed sheets. A study table and closet complete the clean, no-nonsense look. Note TV set and VCD player. While the country breezes are kept out by tightly shut windows and three layers of barbed wire, the entire room is cooled by a 2-hp air-conditioner. (Below) The living room is simple but cozy accented by a 2nd TV set. (Bottom) The kitchen and dining areas are fully furnished with all the amenities of home. Except for curtains. But then, they're dust-catchers, anyway.

It's not 'Boracay,' but...

BY ALCUIN PAPA

IT'S NOT "Boracay" mansion, but the 80-square-meter, two-bedroom, white and blue bungalow built specially to detain Joseph Estrada in Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, looks like the kind of house that a young newlywed couple would be happy to call their first home.

The Philippine National Police has definitely gone out of its way to provide the detention center with all the amenities of an upper middle-class home—two TV sets, a VCD player, two air-conditioners and a private clinic.

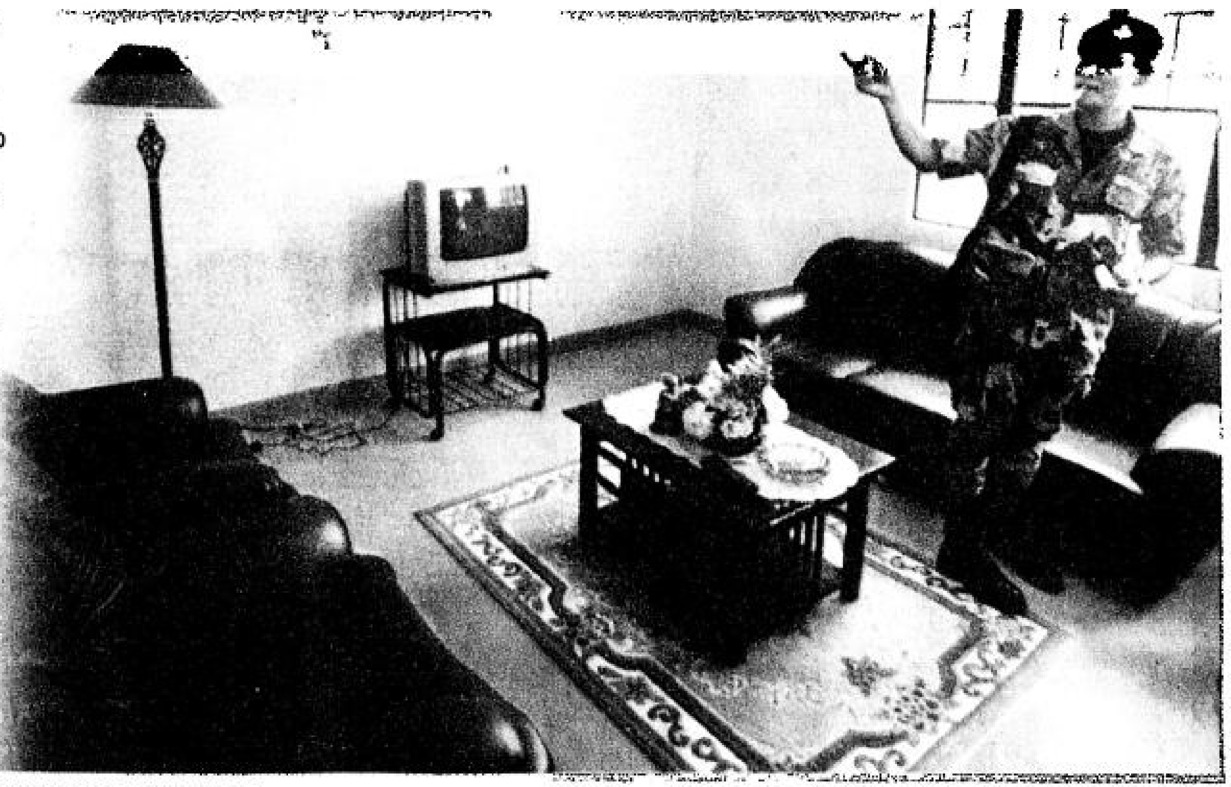
But among the things that are peculiar about the house are its main door, which is fortified with a padlocked black steel gate, and the absence of curtains on the large grilled windows, so that guards can monitor Estrada's activities from the yard.

A maroon leatherette sofa set, a center table on an area rug, a TV set, a stand-up lamp and a wall clock decorate the living room.

Constructors used vinyl tiles for the flooring.

Off the living room is a fully

IT'S/ A16



PHOTOS BY DENNIS SABANGAN

Sin urges flock: Wear blue today

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA,
DONNA PAZZIBUGAN
AND GERALD G. LACUARTA

IT WILL be a Blue Sunday today for Filipino Catholics who are outraged by the reported desecration of the Edsa Shrine by followers of former President Joseph Estrada. The historic site of two popular revolts, the shrine had been declared hallowed ground by the Vatican.

"Father, forgive them for they know not what they're doing," the rector of the shrine, Msgr. Soc Villegas, prayed at the end of the noontime Mass on Saturday.

Church leaders have expressed dismay over the behavior of Estrada protesters at

SIN/ A15

ILABAS ANG
EBIDENSIYA!

PLUNDER IN MAKATI

Ani wants evidence vs Binay

By Michael Lim Ubac

OMBUDSMAN Aniano Desierto yesterday asked Makati Vice Mayor Edu Manzano and opposition councilors to substantiate their allegations that Makati Mayor Elenita Binay and her husband, former Mayor Jejomar Binay, have amassed at least P1 billion by dipping into the city coffers.

Desierto, who heads the prosecution panel that prepared the plunder charges against ousted President Joseph Estrada, said he was willing to prosecute the Binays for the same offense.

But he said Manzano and Councilors Robert Dean Barbers and Mark Joseph should immediately submit to the Office of the Ombudsman evidence showing that the Binay couple had used their offices to enrich themselves.

"Give us leads… and we will follow through. There must be a legal basis before my office will investigate it. Without any basis, the claims are mere rumors," he said.

Desierto said his office could on its own start a fact-finding probe even without any formal complaint from any party.

But he said a formal letter that would show "the possibility of a plunder case" would be helpful and shorten the fact-finding process.

Desierto said he would order a preliminary investigation on the plunder case if Ombudsman probers could establish a prima facie case against the Binays.

Jejomar Binay has branded Manzano's accusation against him as an election-related gimmick.

"This so-called bombshell is just a convenient photo opportunity for these candidates," he said in a statement. He claimed that the allegations were "rehashes of unsubstantiated charges, half-truths and outright lies."

He added: "The fact that they are raising allegations only now when they say they have had the documents since last year raises doubts on the motive and the veracity of these allegations."

But it seems the Manzano camp is quite prepared to engage the Binays in a court battle.

Joseph, who is seeking reelection, claimed the group has "voluminous documents" to substantiate their accusations. Jejomar was Makati mayor for three terms before he relinquished the post for which his wife, Elenita, ran and won in 1998. He became the chairman of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

Now he is again running for mayor of Makati against Manzano, while Barbers is seeking the vice mayoral post.

"These are not mere hearsay (evidence). We have documents from the Commission on Audit proving the existence of massive corruption at City Hall," said Joseph.

Joseph earlier said it was "very easy" to prove the Binays' alleged P1-billion unexplained wealth by just citing the properties of the Binays in and outside Makati.

He said the Binays owned, among others, a condominium unit at the exclusive Peak district in Hong Kong, a 600-hectare modern farm in Rosario, Batangas, worth P600 million, and a mansion in Tagaytay.

Joseph said the P1-billion unexplained wealth was a very "conservative estimate."

He showed the INQUIRER documents detailing the allegedly irregular transactions and overpriced purchases of the Makati City Hall which, he said, would explain how the Binays accumulated their wealth.

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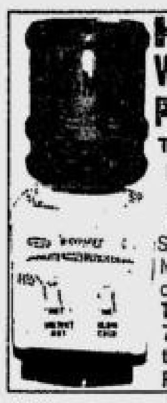

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PPC still hopeful of sweep despite survey

THE PEOPLE Power Coalition remains hopeful it will sweep the May 14 senatorial elections despite recent surveys showing it would win only eight of 13 available seats.

"It's still doable but it will be hard work," said PPC bet Juan Flavier, of the administration-backed coalition's bid for a 13-0 shutout of the opposition.

Flavier and a handful of PPC candidates were in Baybay, Leyte, yesterday on the fifth of a 13-day road trip across the country.

Flavier, who continues to rank second in the surveys, said the PPC will make the most of the remaining days in the campaign period.

Candidate Francis Pangilinan, who consistently ranks in the top 10 of winning candidates, is confident the PPC will win all 13 Senate seats, noting there are still two weeks to woo voters.

Another PPC bet, Ernesto Herrera, said he does not put much weight on surveys, saying there are several factors involved in ensuring victory at the polls.

Party machinery, the final decision of independent voters and party affiliations are some of the factors that could effect victory, he said.

Herrera, a former senator, said surveys in the past had him losing, only for him to eke out a win in the end.

He said in his first Senate race, he was no. 14 in the surveys but ended up winning.

When he sought reelection, he said he was 19th in the surveys but ended up second on the list of winners who were reelectionists.

Pangilinan said the opposition Puwersa ng Masa coalition was using the pro-Estrada rally at the Edsa Shrine to prop up their rankings in the surveys.

He said the people had already decided they wanted change and were likely to support pro-administration candidates in the coming polls.

Flavier said the opposition could use the Edsa demonstration in its campaign.

"In politics, everything is fair game. *Ganoon talaga ang buhay* (Life's like that.)," Flavier said.

Former Leyte representative Sergio Apostol, now Philippine National Oil Co. chair, described the protest at the Edsa Shrine as a *"miting de avance"* (political meeting) ,of the opposition.

Thousands of supporters of deposed President Joseph Estrada are on the fifth straight day of demonstrations at the Edsa Shrine to protest the detention of the former chief executive on charges of economic plunder.

Christine Avendaño

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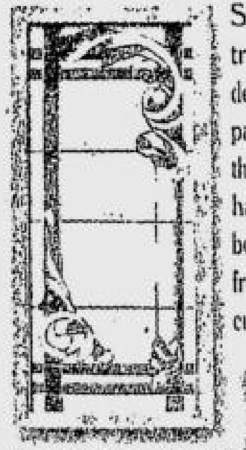

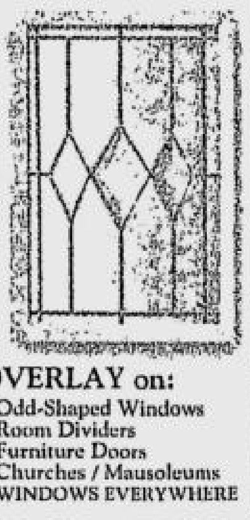

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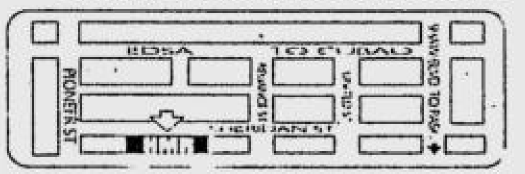

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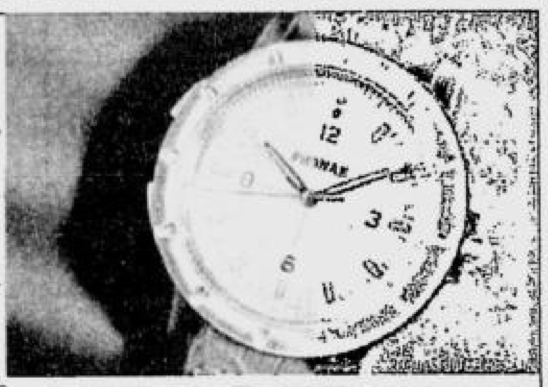

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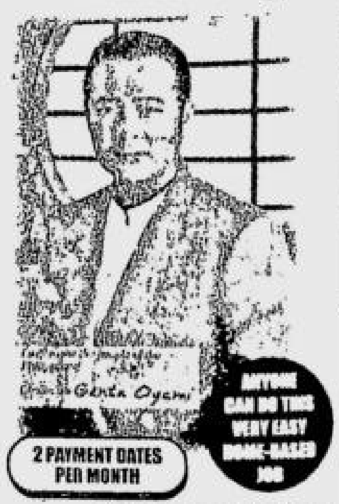

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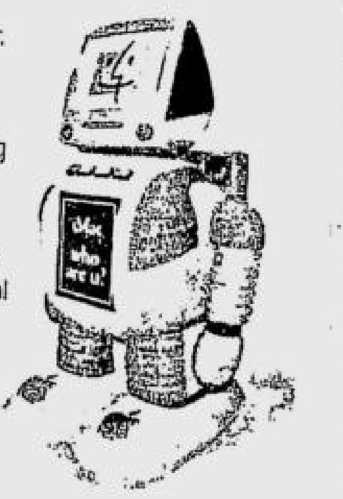

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PPC bets say Erap transfer will ease tension

By Christine Avendaño

BAYBAY, Leyte—Senatorial candidates of the People Power Coalition said yesterday the immediate transfer of former President Joseph Estrada from Camp Crame in Quezon City to Laguna could help diffuse tension caused by his supporters who continue to mass up and desecrate the Edsa Shrine.

"The more access (Estrada) has with the people in Metro Manila, the more likely there would be emotional outbursts and so, (his transfer would help) tension would be minimized," PPC bet Sen. Juan Flavier told reporters.

"Nearness is always a trigger for reactions," he said.

PPC bet Francis Pangilinan said that the order of the Sandiganbayan to move Estrada out from Camp Crame was a "good move" and that it can also prevent his loyalists' alleged bid to try to spring him out of the police camp.

PPC bet Ernesto Herrera said that Estrada should be taken to a "safer place" than Camp Crame especially now that pro and anti-Estrada forces are expected to hold separate rallies near his present detention cell.

But Herrera said the best way to diffuse tension was for the Sandiganbayan to start the trial of Estrada's plunder case and for media to cover it to help people understand.

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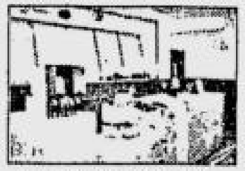
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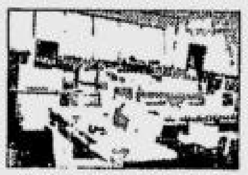
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SAMPLE OFFICIAL BALLOT
MAY 14, 2001

Fill out this ballot secretly inside the booth. Do not put any distinctive marks on any part of the ballot.

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2. KIKO PANGILINAN
3. MONSOD
4. OBET
5. CHATO
6. HERRERA
7. VILLAR
8. MAGSAYSAY
9. RECTO
10. OSMEÑA
11. ARROYO
12. DRILON
13. FLAVIER

Bakit si Bobby Tañada?
"Matindi ang galit ko sa mga kawatan sa gobyerno. Nilalabanan ko ang katiwalian sa pamahalaan at ipinaglalaban ko ang kapakanan ng taumbayan. Hindi negosyo ang pagpasok sa pulitika kundi pagsisilbi sa mamamayan."

Bakit si Kiko Pangilinan?
Sa simula pa lang, public service na ang pinaghandaan ni Kiko. Sa kolehiyo, sa pagsisilbi sa local government, bilang Free Legal Assistance Group lawyer, at bilang brodkaster. Ayon kay Kiko, "may panahon ang lahat, pati ang pagbabago."

LIBERAL

Bakit dapat iboto ang Liberal Party sa Party List?

IBOTO SA PARTY LIST
Select one from among the Political Parties, Sectoral Parties (Labor, Peasants, Urban Poor, Indigenous Cultural Communities, Women, Veterans, Elderly, Disabled, Fisherfolks, Overseas Workers, Youth or Professionals). Organizations or Coalitions enumerated in the certified list posted on the voting booth.

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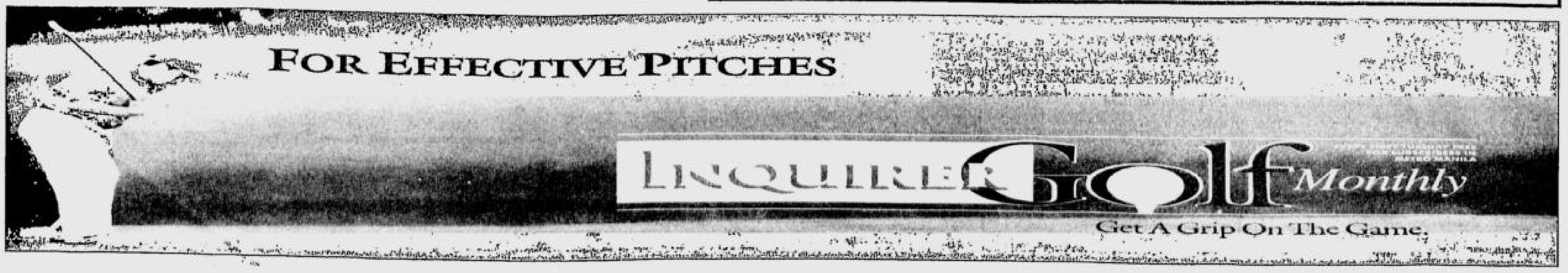


The PPS-Nestle Nutrition Intersubspecialty Conference "Proteins in Pediatric Nutrition"

NESTLÉ NUTRITION

More than just providing nutrition

Proteins build the foundations of child growth and development

By Grace R. Battad, MD

Proteins are more than just food for humans. They directly influence the step-by-step development of the embryo and growing child.

Thus, proteins in pediatric nutrition was the focus of the recent Philippine Pediatric Society-Nestle Nutrition Intersubspecialty Conference in Makati City. Graced by local and foreign experts in various subspecialties of pediatrics, the two-day conference succeeded in conveying the role of proteins in the developing child.

Built up from a chain of various amino acids, proteins have many uses. According to Dr. Sylvia Estrada, assistant professor of pediatrics at the UP-PGH, they act as structural and contractile elements in tissues, immune globulins, carrier for transport, metabolic regulators, hormones, enzymes, building blocks, and spare energy source when carbohydrates and fats are exhausted.

For fetal growth, Dr. Raul Quillamor, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at UERMMC says maternal environment plays a key role in protein accretion. Also 2, 9 and 15 grams/kilo per day of proteins will have to be added to a pregnant woman's diet for protein maintenance in the first, second and third trimesters respectively, especially at midgestation when the embryonic brain is the most vulnerable organ and in need of protein uptake. This makes maternal prenatal monitoring for food intake important.

At birth, a child has 10 to 18 billion neurons, and with protein uptake the dendritic and synaptic growth which reflects better mental functioning and motor coordination is increased. Irreversible mental states from protein deficiency may manifest as attention deficits and lack of emotional motivation.

In neonates and older children, the maximum and minimum amounts of protein needed to maintain basal functions have to be maintained. Growth monitoring is very important because protein, growth and thyroid hormones are needed for anabolism. Secondary decrease in hormone levels during malnutrition is for energy conservation through decreased metabolic rate. In these cases, nutritional rehabilitation is indicated not extensive hormonal therapy.

In the immune system, proteins make up A, T and B cells. With protein energy malnutrition, immunodeficiency results and this leads to risks of mortality and morbidity which are just as high as infectious malnutrition. Proteins also play a role in hypermetabolic states like cardiovascular and pulmonary problems particularly the chronically ill child.

Chronic overloading of proteins in the kidneys lead to acidosis, dehydration, hyper-infiltration nephrosclerosis and renal insufficiency. Thus recommended dietary intake in Filipinos has to be established to determine the optimum amount of protein and how much must be placed in follow on formulas.

Human milk serves as the gold standard that nothing can duplicate and technology can just go as far as giving the best compromise.

Opening Remarks

Carmelo A. Alfiler, MD

President, Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.

This first ever major inter-subspecialty conference is one of the two flagship programs of the Council on Subspecialty Societies of the Philippine Pediatric Society. The other is the school-based synchronized community outreach program, which involves at least three subspecialty societies working together with a chapter on at least three identified projects. These three subspecialties conduct lectures or hands-on activities with pupils and their parents in an identified school.

This conference differs from other PPS nutrition conferences in a number of ways. First, it is a very cerebral meeting with choice people from the academe and the hospitals taking part in a very high-level and focused discussion on proteins. This is just the first of a series, and our succeeding conferences on this will probably focus on fats, then carbohydrates, then minerals, and so on. Second, the eight subspecialty societies and the section on neonatology will identify a relevant link between a particular topic and their respective subspecialty societies and section. Third, the discussion is conducted in a manner similar to how the World Health Organization or the United Nations conducts their meetings. Finally, a book of proceedings will emerge from this conference, which we will distribute to PPS members.

Message from Nestlé

Gabriel F. Consulta

EVP Marketing and Sales

Filipinos are becoming more aware on the importance of nutrition in their lives. Thanks to programs like *"Sangkap Pinoy"* and the Nutrition Guidelines for Filipinos more importantly, the effort of the pediatricians to continuously educate on proper nutrition for their children. Through workshops like this, we at Nestle carry out our global, social responsibility to promote proper nutrition and a healthy lifestyle.

Since our founding in 1867, when Henry Nestle first developed the milk cereal food for babies, Nestle has gained vast knowledge and experience through scientific research into nutritional needs and food preferences of consumers. Not only are we committed to turn out that nourish and give people enjoyment, we are also committed to support the continuing medical education of health professionals all over the world by sharing knowledge and experience. This commitment is shown in the nutrition workshops for health professionals that we conduct all over the world. Through the **Philippine Pediatric Society, Nestlé Philippines** wishes to introduce a new dimension in continuing medical advancement to Filipino pediatricians. This subspecialty conference is one of the many learning venues for academic experts and pediatricians to discuss and analyze the vital role of various nutrients in child health. It is our hope that through this workshop, we would be able to clarify and resolve nutritional issues to further the cause of nutrition in the country, particularly as it concerns Filipino children.

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

Proteins are polymers of amino acids linked by peptide bonds. Proteins have multiple functions in the body, but to digest proteins, we need enzymes in the stomach, pancreas, and the small intestine. Amino acid absorption takes place by active transport from the ECF to the intercellular fluid, and protein utilization would mean its contribution to the amino acid pool, biosynthesis of molecules, and fuel source.

—Sylvia C. Estrada, MD
on Digestion, Absorption and Utilization of Proteins

* * *

The physiologic, metabolic, and nutritional changes during pregnancy mean greater need for protein. Protein deficiency especially during pregnancy is almost always associated with kilocalorie deficiency. Maternal malnutrition is highly associated with low birth weights, thereby increasing the perinatal morbidity rate. There's a need to incorporate nutritional assessment in routine prenatal care. A sound diet is the best way to obtain needed protein, making amino acid supplementation unnecessary.

—Raul M. Quillamor, MD
on Protein Intake of Pregnant Mothers

* * *

Each child is born with a structurally immature body and organs that are functionally underdeveloped, lending itself prone to special consequences with regard to protein metabolism. Breast milk, which is the gold standard for feeding term healthy infants, is at best a preference for small pre-term infants. For the low birth weight, adequate protein intake should allow for catch-up growth, to avoid metabolic imbalances and to support the normal function of organs, particularly the brain.

—Andrea R. Alano, MD
on Needs of Low-Birth-Weight and Full-Term Neonates

* * *

In adults, proteins are mainly used to replace losses. But in children, we have to consider not only replacement of losses but also provision for growth and development. During early infancy, growth represents major requirements for energy, protein, and other nutrients. It has been estiamted that the median growth rate decreases with age, starting at about 10g/kg/day between 8-28 days of life to 1kg/kg/day when the child reaches about one year of age.

—Jossie M. Rogacion, MD
on Protein Intake of Infants and Older Children

* * *

Proteins are required as sources of both essential amino acids and nitrogen for the synthesis of non-essential amino acids and other nitrogen-containing compounds. They have other important functions, including acting as enzymes, transporters, energy source, hormones, and receptors. The growth deceleration observed with undernutrition is an adaptive response to protein and energy undernutrition. Growth acceleration is observed in association with overnutrition. The assessment of body weight progression and sexual development is very relevant in understanding the cause of growth retardation.

—Susana P. Campos, MD
on Influence of Proteins in Growth and Development

Development of new technologies should allow us in the future to develop formulas that will really meet the challenge of bringing both protein content and a protein quality to the level observed in the human milk. Of course, even with these, we will not be able to reproduce all the intrinsic qualities of of human milk in terms of immune response, tolerance to foreign protein, among other factors. However, we have to proceed step by step, and in cases where the mother cannot breastfeed her baby, such formulas may at least offer a better alternative than what is now available.

—Marie Christine R. Secretin, PhD
on New Generation Proteins

> ***"The word protein came from the Greek word that means 'of first importance.' From the word itself, it is an important component of our body. It is our body's only source of nitrogen."***

We have to understand how the brain develops in utero *for us to understand how malnutrition, especially protein and calorie deficiency, can result in structural brain lesions and later translate into developmental problems. The major developmental events that lead to the formation of the human brain follow a highly ordered sequence under stringent control. If an insult happens during brain development, it is more time-specific than stimulus specific. For instance, if there is an insult on neural tube formation and closure, it is the timing that results in neural tube defect rather than the nature of the insult.*

—Marilyn H. Ortiz, MD
on the Influence of Proteins in Brain Development and Behavior

* * *

When proteins are introduced into the blood, they are either incorporated into the tissue or generated to produce energy, and the product would be mostly urea. These are filtered and secreted into the kidney. When protein is taken in excess, it increases the load on the kidney to excrete urea. Children below 2-3 years of age, whose kidneys have not fully matured, will have difficulty coping with a large protein load intake, and could suffer kidney failure.

—Victor S. Doctor, MD
on the Hazards of Protein Overload

Lack of proper nutrition makes children more vulnerable to infections, and protein energy malnutrition and infections co-exist in a vicious cycle. Protein energy malnutrition aggravates infections and infections in turn aggravate malnutrition. When we are sick or we have infections, appetite is poor, metabolism is greater, and there are a lot of metabolic reactions that occur in our body—nutrients are overutilized, wasted, sequestered and diverted. In protein energy malnutrition, the immune system is also affected.

—Josefina C. Carlos, MD
on Protein Energy Malnutrition and Infections

* * *

It has been established that growth slows down or even stops in the absence of adequate protein. Thus, proteins are an important part of a child's growth and development. Studies have shown that congenital heart disease (CHD) is closely associated with malnutrition and growth retardation, especially among younger kids. But the extent of malnutrition does not always correlate with the severity of the lesion because of other factors. Infants with intrauterine growth retardation who fail to have good nutritional assessment and intervention after birth will remain malnourished. Among patients with CHD, low nutritional intake may be secondary to dyspnea, tachypnea, or even fatigue and chronic hypoxia. A high metabolic rate also predisposes them to malnutrition , as the increased cardiac and respiratory work would increase the basal metabolic rate (BMR).

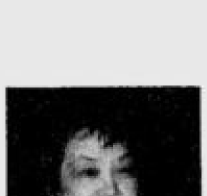
—Ma. Lourdes S. Casas, MD
on Protein Builders in Congenital Heart Disease

* * *

Understanding both the normal function and pathology of mammalian organisms requires a clear understanding of the properties of proteins. If there are alterations in the enzyme production or amino acid sequence, genetic disorders occur, which is responsible for chronic lung disease. Proteins play an important role in the master planning of the morphogenesis of the mammalian respiratory system. It ensures that chemical reactions of the human body occur at a rate compatible with life. It has a protective effect against bacterial and viral infections. And it has an important role in the repair of the human body.

—Milagros S. Bautista, MD
on Chronic Lung Disease and Proteins Link

* * *



The severity of organ failure runs parallel to the incidence ang magnitude of nutritional derangement. Studies show that 42 percent of renal failure patients and 30-60 percent of liver failure patients had severe malnutrition. The goal of nutritional support is to maintain a good nutritional status. That is why we have to limit protein catabolism in acutely ill patients, especially immune function and wound healing. We have to promote healing at all costs, especially renal and liver function. We must also avoid complications, such as uremia and encephalopathy.

—Herminia L. Cifra, MD
on Protein Energy Support in Multi-Organ Failure

OPINION

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EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

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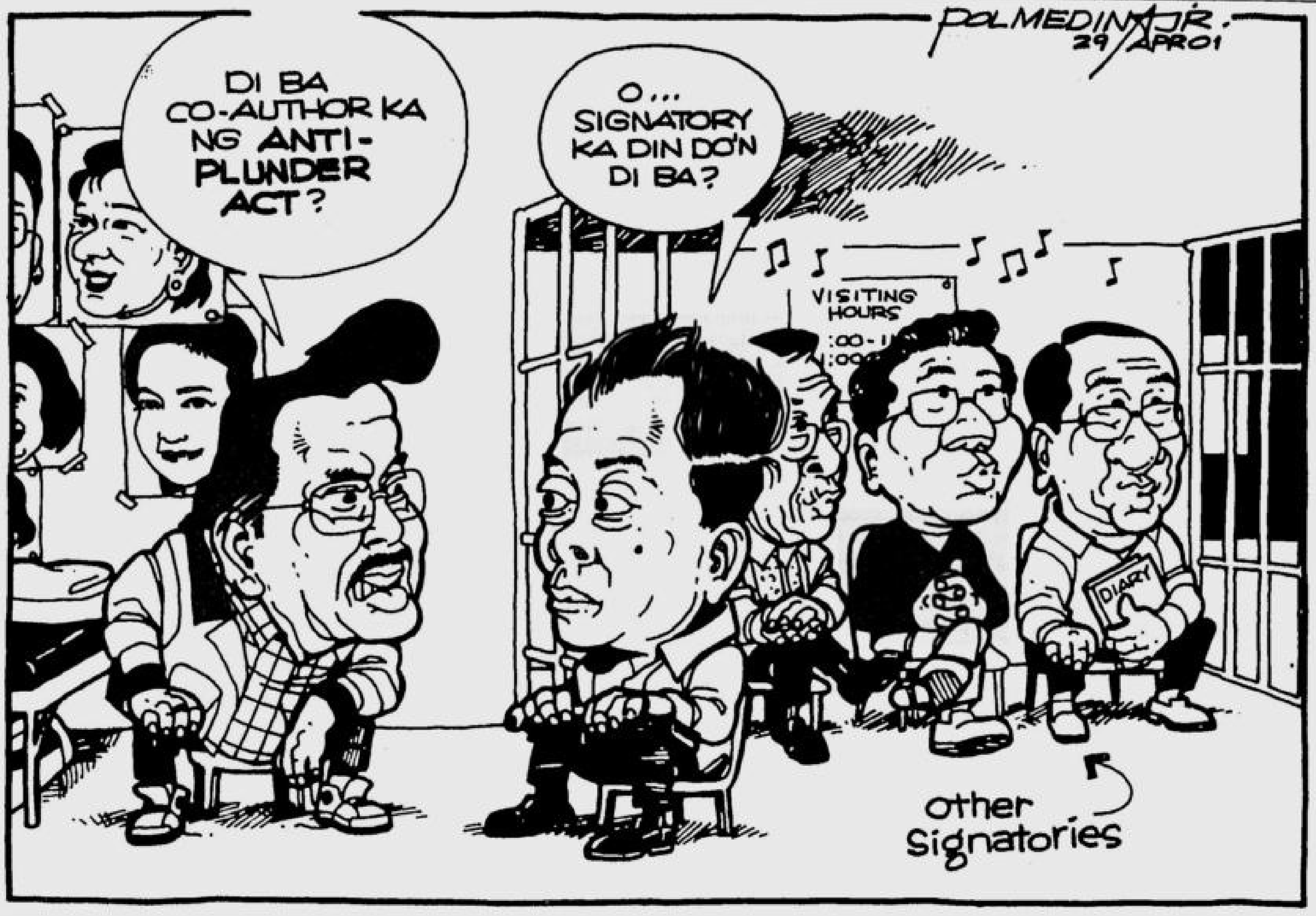
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A question of confidence

EDITORIAL

THE APPOINTMENT of Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya as the intelligence chief of the Philippine National Police, a critically sensitive position, may help President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo sleep better at night. It is, however, having the opposite effect on the Filipino-Chinese community. They look forward to many sleepless nights.

In a bold move uncharacteristic of the usually deferential members of this community, seven leading Filipino-Chinese organizations took the occasion of the President's visit to Binondo last Monday to urge her to recall Berroya's appointment. The unusual appeal is a measure of their desperation and frustration. Ms Macapagal would do well to heed them and reconsider her decision.

It is a matter of public record—indeed, through information that she had herself volunteered—that Ms Macapagal considers Berroya a key player in the people-powered movement that deposed Joseph Estrada and installed her in Malacañang. At the recognition dinner hosted by the Council of Philippine Affairs last February, she identified Berroya as belonging to one of the five groups of military and police officials she considered instrumental in her rise to power.

But the issue at hand is not about paying one's debts of gratitude. It is not even about whether someone like the controversial Berroya, who was convicted of kidnapping in 1995 by the Regional Trial Court of Makati but acquitted by the Supreme Court in 1997, deserves the President's trust. (That is a matter of conscience best left to her.) The issue is whether the appointment of this particular police officer to this particular post is in the country's best interest.

Will Berroya be effective in this office? An intelligence chief must be able to rely not only on the skill and dedication of the men and women he commands, but also on the good will and cooperation of the communities they serve. If the Filipino-Chinese community, a prime target of kidnap-for-ransom syndicates, cannot trust Berroya with the right information, the PNP's anti-kidnapping drive will be scuttled even before it takes off.

"It is alarming enough that the kidnapping menace has reared its ugly head again," the groups' letter to the President reads. "It is even more alarming that the people entrusted to attend to the kidnapping problem are people we cannot trust and cannot cooperate with."

Is Berroya the only one qualified for this office? Well, Malacañang might say, what's wrong with recycling good people? That argument might hold for political appointments, especially if a political party is returned to power. It does not hold for career positions in the civil and armed services, which depend on a steady progression through the ranks to motivate their members.

As it is, the Filipino-Chinese community is in a state of alarm, because the appointment sends the signal that the PNP is "so bereft of decent people that those with tainted records had to be appointed."

Is Berroya the right man for this office? The Supreme Court decision acquitting Berroya and SPO4 Jose Viernes was based on the finding of a lack of proof beyond reasonable doubt. "It does not mean that accused-appellants are lily-white or as pure as driven snow," the *ponencia* of Associate Justice Flerida Ruth-Romero reads. This "final point" was added "lest it be misconstrued that the ruling of this Court is a categorical declaration as to the innocence of the accused-appellants Berroya and Vienes."

This less-than-stirring endorsement does not exactly inspire the confidence of a public grown weary of the kidnapping scourge. It has only emboldened the Filipino-Chinese community to state that "Berroya's appointment is the worst signal that can be given about the government's policy and attitude toward the kidnapping menace."

The President has a strong sense of history, particularly because she is a keen student of her father's own presidency. There was another Malacañang occupant who also had a strong sense of history, but Ferdinand Marcos learned the wrong lessons from it. Instead of embracing the limits imposed by national interest and the public good on the presidency, he maneuvered to transcend them.

Ms Macapagal as president cannot just do as she pleases, such as appointing a man she believes to have been merely framed. She should not consider herself a hostage to gratitude, but rather a prisoner of the public interest.

A pestilence of posters

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

METRO MANILA is filthy enough as it is with garbage in the streets, grime in the slums, dross in the *esteros* and graffiti on the walls. As if these weren't enough, another blight has come again to further uglify the cities: the posters.

It's always like this every three years. Posters are a chronic vice of our elections, like vote-buying and flying voters. In many civilized countries, posters are not used as scandalously as we use them here. In fact, in some of our own better-regulated communities, they are hardly used at all.

Under our election laws, posters are restricted as to size, source and the places where they may be pasted. All these strictures are blithely ignored. Posters can be as big as can be; even if they individually comply with the prescribed measurements, they can be pasted in one long line like a streamer or one on top of the other into a rectangle like a giant billboard. That's their way of sneering at the law. Moreover, they are found everywhere, on public and private property, and even on vehicles and, fittingly, trash cans.

If there is any more telling evidence of the candidate's contempt for authority, it is found in his posters. The more ubiquitous they are, and the bigger they are, the more they proclaim the candidate's defiance of the law he is professing to obey and defend.

Such disrespect is obvious in the posters of Panfilo Lacson, who must be spending a tremendous amount of money on their printing and distribution. Gigantic letters in yellow and blue spell out his name so the voters will not forget, and other posters of his proclaim his face all over the metropolis so he will be recognizable everywhere.

Juan Ponce Enrile employs the same tactics, except that his posters use bigger letters but the same eye-arresting colors. Modern technology has improved visual advertising but also made it more expensive, not that some candidates like Johnny can't afford it.

No less conspicuous, and equally illegal, are the posters of *psychiatrist* Loi who styles herself as "*doktora ng masa.*" (Whatever does she mean about her patients?) Other posters are less flamboyant, if only slightly so, but also illegally printed and posted to mock the Commission on Elections.

The finger must naturally point to the candidates themselves, but none of them will admit any guilt. The common excuse is that it is not they but their followers who, despite their admonitions, have committed the violations. These hypocrites are insulting our intelligence. Even if their denials were accepted, they would only show that they have no influence even on their own followers, who are willfully disobeying them. So how can these ineffective candidates expect to lead the nation?

But the fault does not lie only with the candidates.

No less responsible, if not more so, is the Comelec, which is the chief enforcer of our election laws. The posters all over Metro Manila and elsewhere in the country, are the best and most obvious evidence of the inefficiency of this body in regulating the conduct of the political campaign.

Part of the duties of the Comelec is the adoption of "effective measures to minimize election spending, including limitation of places where propaganda materials shall be posted." The Constitution also authorizes it to deputize, with the concurrence of the president, law-enforcement agencies and instrumentalities of the government, including the Armed Forces, "for the exclusive purpose of ensuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections."

Its alleged lack of time and resources is not acceptable. It has all of three years to plan for every election and can, during the intervals, mull plans to cope with the problem of illegal posters. The Comelec cannot plead insufficient funds either for the solution should not need much funding, if at all. As for manpower, it has enough of its own personnel, let alone the other government functionaries it may draft.

For starters, the Comelec should begin prosecuting violators of the posters rule, especially the candidates themselves as principals by inducement. If convicted on time, they may not only be fined or imprisoned but also subjected to the harsher penalty of disqualification from continuing to run. This last sanction should send a strong signal to the other candidates also inclined to flout the law.

I do not exempt from accountability the local executives who have permitted the proliferation of illegal posters in their respective jurisdictions. If other places can control the problem, I do not see why the rest of the country cannot. Pasig City, for example, is relatively free of posters and, I might add, graffiti under the eagle eyes of Mayor Vicente Eusebio. By contrast, practically the rest of Metro Manila, which should be the centerpiece of our country, is defaced with these arrogant and unsightly posters.

I believe that ordinary citizens like us can help in solving the problem of illegal posters. The barangay chairs can lead in the removal of all such nuisances in their respective jurisdictions. The residents can themselves detach all intrusive propaganda materials and thus make their community law-abiding and neater. The candidates have no right to convert the whole metropolis into a honky tonk.

We should not choose our candidates on the basis of the number or stridency of their posters. These are not a gauge of their competence. I hardly see posters of Joker Arroyo and Wigberto Tañada, but I will definitely vote for them because they are good and worthy men. Their record commends them. It's possible that their lack of posters is due to their lack of campaign funds, which is another point in their favor.

The poster poseurs are sending a negative message to the electorate. They are violating the law and flaunting their opulence to the detriment of a truly fair and honest election. I for one will not vote for them. I hope many more of the electorate will also reject them as enemies of democracy, good government and plain cleanliness.

Fragile

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

AFTER JESUS died, the disciples were disoriented, disillusioned and scared. So they went back to what they were doing before they met Jesus: they went back to fishing. The dream had ended. The vision was gone. The mission was forgotten. Jesus knew their hearts, so He appeared again to them to assure them, to remind them and to challenge them.

It is interesting to note how gentle Jesus was. He knew how to handle fragile and weak hearts. He did not chide or scold them. Instead, He challenged them and affirmed them and raised up their drooping spirits. Jesus knew how to handle fragile situations.

We too must deal with fragile persons and situations as we go on in life. It all boils down to the basic reminder: "Fragile, handle with care!"

* * *

We are in a very fragile situation in our country once again. The situation can explode. All it takes is one spark. We do not know how the events will unfold in the next few days. Once again, we ask the Blessed Mother to envelop our country with her motherly mantle. Let us pray for peace, and continue to work for peace. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our leaders in their decisions and actions.

* * *

His Eminence, Jaime Cardinal Sin, knows how to handle fragile situations because he listens to the Blessed Mother and he is guided by the Holy Spirit. I am wearing blue this Sunday following the cardinal's appeal that we express our indignation over the desecration of the Edsa Shrine. Let us pray that our civil and military leaders will become more learned in handling fragile situations and handle people's lives with care.

* * *

I had the chance to fly a kite and go fishing again this week. It was a good time to relax, reflect and recharge one again, and there's no better place to do this than in one's hometown, among one's own relatives and friends. There is something refreshing in going back and walking in places where we used to run as children, and being reminded once again. Flying a kite and fishing reminded me about the basic lesson we all must learn in life: learning when to hold on, and when to let go. If you come to think about it, a lot of our decisions in life boil down to the basic lesson that one cannot hold on, nor can one give in all the time. This fragile situation we are in now is a clear case of learning when to give in and when to let go.

* * *

Jesus knew the art of holding on and letting go. Take Peter's case, for instance. He asked him the question, "Do you love me?" three times. Why three times? Even Peter was hurt and distressed when He asked him the question a third time. Finally, it dawned on Peter that he had denied Jesus three times.

May we all learn from Jesus that anger and violence cannot change people's hearts. Love and gentleness are very powerful weapons that can disarm and soften an angry heart. Jesus handled fragile Peter so well. He did not berate or blame him. He did not pressure him. He just allowed him to realize his mistakes.

Here is a beautiful case of using gentleness to soften a hardened heart. Yes, in the long run, only love and gentleness can soften the hardest of hearts.

* * *

It's May, the beautiful month of May. It is the month of the Blessed Mother. Next Saturday, May 5, I am doing the Walk with God to Manaoag from Urdaneta, Pangasinan. This three-hour walk will begin at 6 a.m. from the Urdaneta Church and will end with a Mass at 11 a.m. at Manaoag. I have been doing this walk since 1989 every First Saturday of May and October. You are invited to join us, to thank the Lord and Mama Mary for blessings received, and especially to ask their help for our country, our leaders and our people. Let us ask the Lord to heal our land. Let us ask the Blessed Mother to bless and protect our families, our country and our people.

* * *

May 1 is the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. We salute all workers who do an honest job to earn a living. We do not salute those who use and abuse workers. We definitely do not salute those who do not do honest work.

Let's a face it. There are people who make money using fraud, deception or violence. Yes, there are people who use and abuse other people. Are you one of those? How do you treat your employees, your helpers at home?

* * *

Let us pray for leaders who will feed the flock, and not feed on the flock. May the Lord deliver us from wolves in sheep clothing, so-called public servants who will help themselves and fatten their wallets once elected. These people have no care for the welfare and well-being of our people. Wanted: public servants who will handle fragile people's lives with care.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, as you always handle my fragile heart with care, may I also be gentle and caring. Amen.

Former presidents as detention prisoners

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio
T. Carpio

THE RAGING issue today is how to properly detain former President Joseph Estrada who is on trial for the non-bailable crime of plunder. This issue has triggered a massive gathering of pro-Estrada fanatics at the historic Edsa Shrine, a development Estrada strategists hope to convert into Edsa III.

Pro-Estrada fanatics want their idol placed under house arrest at his luxurious mansion on Polk Street in Greenhills, San Juan. Anti-Estrada crusaders want the disgraced former president locked up at the rat-infested city jail in Quezon City, just like any other citizen awaiting trial before the Sandiganbayan.

For security reasons, the Philippine National Police wants Estrada detained at the PNP Special Forces Camp in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. Estrada's lawyers oppose this, claiming Sta. Rosa is too far from the place of trial at the Sandiganbayan in Quezon City. Others have offered a middle ground: a "hospital arrest" for Estrada, subject to court approval.

The Rules of Court provide that "it shall be the duty of the officer executing the warrant without unnecessary delay to arrest the accused and to deliver him to the **nearest police station or jail**." Clearly, the law mandates Estrada to be detained in a "police station or jail" close to the place of trial. Camp Crame is close enough to the Sandiganbayan, but the nearest jail is the highly congested Quezon City jail.

If Estrada were not a former president, he would have certainly landed in the Quezon City jail. Since Estrada, as a former president, still commands a substantial following, detaining him in the Quezon City jail poses a great security risk. The throngs of Estrada fanatics can easily overrun the Quezon City jail. This is sufficient reason for the Sandiganbayan to order Estrada's detention in a well-secured police station like the PNP SAF camp in Sta. Rosa.

Aside from security concerns, there is another legitimate ground for not detaining Estrada in the nearest "police station or jail." Courts have allowed a detention prisoner suffering from a severe illness to be temporarily transferred, under adequate police guard, to a hospital for urgent medical treatment. Of course, the government prosecutor can always demand an independent medical examination to determine if the detention prisoner really needs urgent medical treatment.

Does Estrada not deserve, as a former president, a house arrest instead of an ignominious prison cell, at least prior to his conviction? There are those who claim that Estrada is still presumed innocent until finally convicted, and for this reason he should be accorded special treatment, given his former high office.

The Constitution, however, outlaws special treatment of citizens regardless of their high office or calling. The "equal protection clause" of the Constitution mandates that the law shall be applied equally to all citizens. If the law says that detention prisoners shall be confined in the "police station or jail," then this applies even to former presidents and other high officials.

Estrada's lawyers claim that there is a historical precedent for granting Estrada's plea for house arrest. Emilio Aguinaldo, the country's first president, was allegedly placed under house arrest in Malacañang by the American military government. Aguinaldo's case, Estrada's lawyers assert, is proof that house arrest of a former president has a precedent in this country.

The historical facts reveal otherwise. Malacañang was never the house or residence of Aguinaldo who actually lived in Kawit, Cavite. Aguinaldo was not facing criminal or civil charges during his less than one-month stay in Malacañang. Malacañang then was the command center of the American military operations in the Philippines.

In "The American Occupation of the Philippines: 1898-1912," James Blount quotes a report of Gen. Arthur MacArthur to the US War Department that Aguinaldo was a special "guest" who was accorded honor and respect. The exact status of Aguinaldo during his brief stay in Malacañang was that of a guest and not a detention prisoner.

The first and only president before Fstrada to be placed under arrest and imprisoned was Jose P. Laurel, the president during the Japanese Occupation. Accused of collaborating with the enemy by the victorious American forces, Laurel was detained in military stockades in Tokyo and Yokohama together with others accused of war crimes.

In "The Laurel Story: The Life and Times of Dr. Jose P. Laurel, President of the Second Republic of the Philippines," historian Carlos Quirino writes: "He was kept alone in his cell....The food doled out was nothing out of the ordinary....Son Pepe was kept in a separate cell." Certainly, Laurel was not given any special treatment by his American military captors.

When Laurel was brought back to the Philippines to face trial in 1946, the government detained him in Muntinglupa Prison where other common criminals were imprisoned. The trial of Laurel was conducted at the Old Bilibid Prison in Azcarraga, Manila.

Laurel's case sets the historical precedent in detaining former presidents awaiting trial for crimes: no house arrest, no special treatment, but detention in jail just like any other citizen accused of a crime.

The plunder case against Estrada is perhaps the single most important event that could either reform our governmental system or complete its destruction because of unabated corruption. If we bungle this case, then the lessons that should be learned by succeeding generations will never be learned.

As a people, do we have the moral strength and unwavering determination to do what is right and just despite all the obstacles? Or are we again going to make compromises, the same ones that have become barriers to our national development?

Why they're there

AT LARGE

Rina
Jimenez-David

MARCOS loyalists may today be a largely spent force, but I still remember the time, some 15 years ago, when they hogged the headlines with their almost daily rallies and botched coup attempts. Remember their gatherings at the Luneta, one of which is recalled particularly for the bizarre sight of protesters holding up the heads of (real) pigs on stakes, to symbolize the leadership of that time? Remember the unfortunate worker who happened to be strolling through the Luneta wearing a yellow Cory T-shirt when he was set upon by loyalists and beaten to death? Remember those pathetic attempts at armed confrontation, including the comical takeover of Manila Hotel and the "hostage-taking" at the GMA-7 compound, complete with a rock-and bottle-throwing konfrontasi between *Coryistas* and *abandonados*?

Well, how could we forget? The same faces and names who led those unruly bands of loyalists are still around. Also hovering, like malignant presences, are the ringleader and suspected brains behind the series of coup attempts that sought to overthrow the Aquino administration. And they have all come together for this latest parody of protest, the rally that has turned the Edsa Shrine into one big toilet and garbage dump.

Alan Ortiz, national security adviser during the Aquino administration, contends that what we are seeing today is simply an extension of the efforts of the same characters who, after Edsa, sought a short-cut to the presidency that they knew was beyond their reach by legitimate means. Lurking behind the portly person of the deposed and dishonored former president, they hope to use the current turmoil, and the perhaps genuine sympathy of Erap's followers, to once more catapult themselves to power, without need of going through the bother of an election. An election, it must be said, in which they are in grave danger of losing.

* * *

STILL, says Ortiz, though there is plenty of evidence that local officials belonging to the opposition have bused in thousands of paid poor constituents, a big number of those at the Edsa Shrine went there motivated by sincere and deeply felt sympathy for Erap.

Though Jaime Cardinal Sin and the "origs" of People Power I and II are incensed at the "desecration" of the Edsa Shrine, Ortiz says it's time we asked why for the *masa*, "the Edsa Shrine holds no meaning, and People Power evokes no sentiment."

One possible reason: "People Power I failed to deliver on its promises to improve the lives of the poor, and they see little possibility that People Power II, under the Macapagal administration, would do the same."

"Rich versus poor" is a despicable and desperate line wielded by politicians who bear much responsibility for further pauperizing those who are already poor. But why do so many among the poor buy the line? Because ours has been and remains a drastically polarized society, with, to use Randy David's analogy, "a thin layer of the educated and even sophisticated floating on a sea of poverty and ignorance."

The gap between the rich and poor does not only remain wide, it is growing wider. Economic and market reforms have only succeeded in making the rich richer. Reforms with the potential to equalize access to resources, such as agrarian reform, failed after they were met with resistance by politically influential landowners. And education, long considered by our people as the key to a better life, has failed to act as a leveler, since jobs, already scarce, seem limited only to those who graduate from "elite" schools. No wonder, the level of frustration is rising, especially among the young who feel that no better future awaits them.

* * *

MAKING the rounds and already being aired over some radio stations are songs prepared by young songwriters to raise public consciousness on responsible voting.

Multi-awarded songwriter Trina Belamide, president of Katha, the association of composers, has spearheaded the recording so far of the first three of 12 new pieces that will be gathered in a breakthrough album. The first three songs are: "Eleksyon na Naman," music by Grace Nono and Bob Aves, lyrics by Grace Nono, arranged, recorded, mixed and produced by Bob Aves at Soundquest, with background vocals by Jingle Buena, Dedette Alcantara, Trina Belamide, Paulo Zarate and Eugene Cailao; "Hindi Mo Ako Mabibili," music by Celso "Jackou" Abenoja, lyrics by Trina Belamide, arranged and produced by Nonoy Tan, recorded and mixed by Dante San Pedro at Greenhillsound Productions and performed by the Aegis Band courtesy of Harmonic; "Kaduda-duda Ka," performed by Renz Verano courtesy of Octo Arts EMI, music by Roy Del Valle, lyrics by Trina Belamide, arranged, recorded, mixed and produced by Roy Del Valle at Noisy Neighbors, guitars by Mike Villegas.

Assisted by Pagbabago@Pilipinas, a group of artists, educators, businessmen and professionals dedicated to social reforms, Belamide will distribute CDs and cassettes of the collection through Namfrel and parish offices. Voter and values educators nationwide are enjoined to help duplicate and spread the songs as much as they can.

* * *

TO GIVE you an idea of what the songs are like, here are the lyrics of "Kaduda-duda Ka," sung by Renz Verano, an aspiring "Jukebox King."

Pasensya ka na kung 'di ako
Magtiwala agad sa tulad mo
Gusto ko mang maniwalang
Mabuti kang tao

Di ko kasi maintindihan
Kung paano mo nagawang saktan
Ang ibang mga tao
Mabait ka man sa tulad ko

CHORUS:
Mabait ka nga sa akin nguni't di naman sa iba
Kaduda-duda ka
Kaduda-duda ka
Marami kang nililihim, 'yan ang sabi nila
Kaduda-duda ka
Kaduda-duda ka

Para bang kailan lang
Pangalan ko'y 'di mo alam
Ngayon tila ako
Na ang iyong mundo

Kahit ano ay gagawin
Para lamang sa akin
Yan ang sinasabi mo
Bakit kay rami mong pangako?

The third time as farce

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy
David

THERE is this cynical view that nothing much distinguishes people power from mob rule: you call it people power when you sympathize with it, and mob rule when you disagree with it. Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago subscribes to a related version of this thought when she reduces people power to "a numbers game." From her perspective, if you bring in a crowd of one million, it matters little what goal unites its participants.

Crowds like the one that has gathered at the Edsa Shrine following the arrest of the deposed president, Joseph Estrada, can in fact accommodate a variety of motives. People may exchange their presence for nothing more meaningful than a meal or a fee. Some may come for the entertainment. Others may come out of genuine sympathy for a fallen idol. But many join a crowd like this because it provides a venue for the discharge of accumulated resentment. What they get is not catharsis, however. The emotions are not purified so much as they are indulged.

This is not people power; this is its parody, its farcical version. People power is moved by hope; the so-called "Edsa III" is burdened by despair. People power imagines what life can be if people placed their destiny in their hands. This one imagines what life would have been if their patron had not been overthrown. People power desires to move on and remake the world; people resentment desires to dwell in the past and display its wounds.

The only thing they have in common is Edsa. But the place does not make the event; the event makes the place. Edsa is everywhere there are people who are moved by something bigger than themselves, who find strength in their solidarity and are determined to change the circumstances of their lives. The Edsa Shrine holds no meaning for the participants of "Edsa III." They cannot clothe their resentment with the venerable symbolism of the Edsa Shrine and expect to derive any strength from it. The magic is not in the place but in the energy that people are able to summon from within their hearts when the memory of greatness moves them.

They must create their own symbols, rid themselves of the weight of their bitterness, turn their backs on the patrons who have robbed them of their will to self-reliance, organize themselves and fight for their children rather than for the politicians who use them. "We want jobs, jobs, jobs, not Erap," shouted a labor militant in reaction to the clamor of the lumpen poor at Edsa to restore Erap to the presidency. He could not have said it more eloquently. Guilt is not the effect he seeks to elicit from the public, but rather reforms in the way we live as a nation.

Yet those of us who are dismayed by what is happening today at Edsa cannot afford to be dismissive and contemptuous of those who imagine themselves to be the core of People Power III. Legitimate grievances fuel their hatred for the rich, even as they are blind to the sins of the rich who use them. They are the products of a society that has been content to leave to the vagaries of the market what should have been assumed by a responsible government: the fulfillment of basic needs, the expansion of opportunities for a better life, and the creation of an environment in which life can be accepted as a challenge rather than as punishment.

We cannot call ourselves one nation for as long as a great number of our people are forced to live sub-human lives. We cannot feed the poor dreams while expecting them to cope with brutalizing conditions. We cannot celebrate modernity while poverty remains the lot of the masses. We cannot have peace under a social structure that is designed to produce gross inequalities that breed hate and resentment among more than half of the population. Without social change, the poor's version of people power, with all its awkwardness and anarchy, will forever haunt our nation like a ghost.

Direct action by the people is the forbidden fruit of politics. People power strikes fear in the heart of governments everywhere because it goes against the whole logic of institutionalized collective life. It is a dangerous weapon that can explode in the face of its user. It can go berserk and destroy the delicate web of relationships that holds a young nation like ours together. Filipinos have been lucky so far to handle it effectively, tempering its force with the ethic of spirituality and the culture of cheerfulness.

But in the hands of adventurers who value nothing but power, people power is a monster to be directed at will. It has no will of its own; it feeds upon its own hatred. It does not live to preserve itself for a hopeful future. It gathers force in anticipation of one dramatic discharge. "But," as Elias Canetti, the foremost theoretician of crowds, wrote, "the moment of discharge, so desired and so happy, contains its own danger. It is based on an illusion; the people who suddenly feel equal have not really become equal...the crowd as such disintegrates. It has a presentiment of this and fears it. It can only go on existing if the process of discharge is continued with new people who join it. Only the growth of the crowd prevents those who belong to it creeping back under their private burdens."

The so-called "Edsa III" cannot recruit more people into its ranks than it already has. Its decline has already begun. But we have seen the other face of people power, and we must take heed of the lessons it is telling us.

* * *

Comments are welcome at rdavid@pacific.net.ph

My own little war

HIGH BLOOD

Raul S. Cajulis

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —**Ed.**

WE first heard about the war over the wood-laminated, cabinet-sized and dome-shaped RCA radio. The announcer said Japanese troops had occupied Manila and were expected to disperse to the provinces.

Our barrio, Binakayan, is no more than 20 kilometers from Manila, and Tatay, my grandfather, like everybody else's *tatay* in our small fishing village, was not sure what to expect after hearing the news. There were rumors of atrocities committed by the Japanese militia, particularly those forces recruited from Formosa and Korea. His first thought was about securing the safety of the family. He gathered all the adults and proposed that we leave the barrio because our house was located along the main road, which happened to be on the route to the US Naval Base at Sangley Point. He met with other families from the barrio and they all decided to leave our homes for safety and refuge in the mountains.

We sought sanctuary with family friends in Amadeo, Cavite, a small rural town rich in vegetation and far from civilization with no accessible road.

From day to day, life for the evacuees was not easy. Neither was it very difficult, but it was surely a different experience. Tatay's primary concern was to provide adequate sustenance to all despite the scarcity of food. Most of the time, the more abundant corn and sweet potato were added to our rice so everyone would have enough to eat. He rationed our food based on need and without favoritism. The children had to eat first without depriving adults their equitable share.

In exchange for our fair share of subsistence, we were asked to do some chores based on our individual capability. My assignment was to fetch water for drinking and cooking from the well down a ravine about eight meters deep before the water level. I was told to be very careful going down the wet and slippery steps and get the task done before lunch.

The adults had to get the water for cleaning, washing and bathing, which meant filling an 80-gallon drum daily. All the adult women helped in food preparation, washing clothes and cleaning the nipa house.

The kids, after their daily chores, were free to play outside and gather *bayugos*, a hard nut-like seed from a strong vine. We used them in place of coins to play *ta-ching*.

We were in a place that was more than a safe haven. Amadeo was a blissful and serene locale abounding with fruits and vegetables. Our stay was more of a vacation than a distressful evacuation. The family was well protected and provided for.

After more than five months in Amadeo, it was decided that the rumors were not as bad as they seemed and we were ready to go back to our place and resume our normal lives. We heard that our barrio was saved from the ravages of Japanese soldiers, and we owed it to Saki, a local Japanese truck tire dealer and owner of the gas station located across our old house. He protected our village against Japanese abuses.

Saki's courageous defense of our homes carried our thoughts back to the past, the peaceful and untroubled time before the war. Tatay recalled the times he and I took a morning stroll to Kulanta to tend to our small parcel of land and bring back token shares of fruits and vegetables like banana, papaya, *atis* and *chico* from our *kasama*. The morning walk was also a form of exercise for we had to push a *kareton* as well as an opportunity for me to play with my dog Panda.

The way to Kulanta passed through the old railroad track, which we called *tramo*. The track led to the shoreline of Bacoor Cove, an extended arm of Manila Bay. There were times when Saki tagged along with his binoculars. He explained this by saying that as an amateur bird watcher he was particularly interested in birds found along the shoreline.

It was only after the war that I realized that Saki was looking at the three wireless radio towers at Sangley Point, not more than two kilometers from our shore. The consequence was evident when the first Japanese raid destroyed those radio towers.

This incident was the only thing I regretted about ever knowing Saki. In fact, the good deeds he had done for the barrio seemed to make his betrayal inconsequential to our barrio people. He was able to spare our barrio the agony of a *zona*, the forceful impoundment of all able-bodied men. We were grateful in a way to an enemy who was a good neighbor. We came to know Saki both as an individual and a soldier.

After the war, I enjoyed watching the serial movies that were shown two chapters at a time. Fortunately, our school schedule (I was in Grade 5 then) was over by three in the afternoon, giving us ample time to watch the movies and get home before five. The old cinema was built in 1911 and was just across the street from our school. It was built entirely of wood, with wooden benches in the orchestra and bleachers-type seats in the balcony. Inside the movie house was a small store run by Ti Ticang and Ti Naty, where *halo-halo, ginatan* and *inihaw na mais* were sold. It was only much later that I realized the danger of broiling corns on an open fire inside a movie house.

The ground floor of the cinema was used as a rice granary by Leon Manalo. There, *ipa* was piled in more than two-meter high mounds and made available to anybody for free. I earned my movie money supplying *ipa* for cooking fuel to Alon and Panoy's, a Chinese restaurant under our house.

One day, the movie "Deadwood Dick" was shown in its entirety, all 15 chapters of it. It took four hours to finish the movie and so I reached home late. Tatay scolded me for missing the Oracion and supper with the family. However, he saved some dinner for me but continued his lecture on what was expected from me. First, I should let people at home know if I would be late so they would not be worried. Second, the Oracion and family supper together were important because the family that prayed together stayed together.

A week later, "The Mysterious Doctor Satan" was also shown in full. It was too much for the young me to remember what Tatay had told me.

I violated his trust two more times when the movie house showed "The Masked Marvel" and "The Perils of Nyoka."

The last time I missed the Oracion and the family dinner, Tatay reminded me of my obligations and responsibilities. He assured me that his scolding was not a punishment but a form of guidance that would serve me well later in life. He followed with a lecture on life and the importance of improving one's self and striving toward a goal so that one can give his children a better life. The lecture was followed by a narration of what he had done as a young man.

The sounds of World War II quickly became a faint drone in my head and its grim atrocities mere stories told and retold by grownups. But the rest of my life turned into a constant struggle to measure up to the accomplishments of Tatay and the standards he had for me.

I would like to believe that I have won my little war. But I wish he could have seen my most treasured trophies: my three beautiful grownup children whom I tried to raise according to the guideposts he had set. I am aware, of course, that six decades after my innocent youth, my children are also battling their own private wars in a different arena.

Raul S. Cajulis, 66, left the country in 1958 after joining the US Navy. While in the service, he earned his bachelor's degree and went on to get his master's in industrial management from George Washington University. After retiring from the Navy, he joined the General Accounting Office (GAO) and retired in 1999. He has remained a young boy from a small fishing village in the Philippines all these years.

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Comments can be sent to votersvoice@inquirer.com.ph

JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR., Editor

Gentxt 2 Sen8 candid8s: liv txt msgs alone >:(

THE INQUIRER continues to listen to the concerns of voters, this time from the so-called generation text, a singer and comedienne, an economist, a history professor, a retiree, an anti-crime advocate and people working with streetchildren. This is part of the newspaper's citizen-based coverage of the senatorial campaign.

They urge the incoming senators to address a government agency's threat to censor text messages, music piracy, the weaknesses of the tax system, the export of historical artifacts and the exploitation of children.

Next week, Voter's Voice will publish the net worth of the candidates, their assets and liabilities, taxable income for last year and taxes paid.

'I don't want leaders scared of text messages'

Patricia Bautista, *21, People Power II participant, University of Santo Tomas*

I hope the incoming senators will not support the stupid proposal of the National Telecommunications Commission to cut one's cell phone service if caught thrice forwarding rumors.

What's this? Baseball? Strike three and you're out?

When you think about it, it's pathetic. Number one, we do not have the technology to keep track of the millions of messages that are being sent every day. You don't need half a brain to know that it won't work. And number two, putting a gag on us is not the answer. What are they so afraid of? That the truth will come out like it did in Edsa II?

I was there, every single day, with millions of Filipinos, clamoring for freedom from the hands of that idiot. And text messaging was a primary tool there. "Go to Edsa," was a message we received that fateful night of the impeachment trial—and we did, by the thousands. "Wear black," our phones told us—and everyone did. "Angelo Reyes will show up in Edsa," our screens read, and he did. This was when I realized the power of technology—and how it could bring people—even one whole nation—together.

Now, with the idiot out of power, the same people who are enjoying the fruits of Edsa II are the same ones who want to shut us up.

We will not let this happen. Before this can become a law, senators need to put a stop to this idiocy. Most members of the old batch of senators were responsible for covering up the truth—but it shone through. I don't want to see a new batch of senators trying to muffle us into silence yet again.

NO. That should be their answer. No, we will not silence the people. Yes, we will give them the right to communicate. Education, and not censorship, is the answer.

They should stop thinking about themselves. If they have nothing to hide, then they have nothing to fear. They need not put a gag on us because we won't have anything to squeal about.

I don't want leaders, who are scared of a few measly text messages. I want leaders who support technology and the freedom it gives us Filipinos. I don't want hypocrites. I don't want selfish pigs to be in office. They need to ask themselves only one question: "What am I so afraid of?"

If they see the need to put a stop to our thumb power, they might as well lock us up in cages. *Pamela Angela S. Pastor*

'Leave text alone"

Gary Mercado, *general manager, http://cell.exchange.ph*

Why are we shocked whenever politicians dance and sing onstage come election time? Even during non-election time they consistently provide the silliness and idiocy you'd think would only come from Dolphy movies.

First, it was their impassioned but misguided pleadings in the impeachment trial, followed by a series of attempts to clear their names via visits to the Edsa II revolt and whole page ads. And now their latest lunacy–THEY WANT TO CENSOR TEXT!! You'd think their heads should be examined! Or maybe not...

Quick flashback to Edsa, January 2001. Cell phone in hand, I raced from my home in Mandaluyong to nearby Ortigas. The suspense in the air was thrilling. Even more so when I got there. Hundreds, no, thousands upon thousands of people were shouting, singing, laughing and crying. I was speechless at first, then I started to join the crowd. The emotions in me were swirling, the passion intense. But more than anything I wanted my friends and family to be there. At least I wanted them to know. So what do I do? I TEXT THEM. I stood there, on top of the overpass from Ortigas going to Cubao. I texted and texted and texted. I tried to transfer all my fiery emotions to my sisters, my niece, countless friends and even a cousin in Dubai. Yes Dubai, UAE. She needed to know everything so to hell with the expense!

Now, let's pretend that whatever censoring mechanism (given it really is possible) was put in place before that. At the same place there I would be, texting my emotions across the globe. I imagine I would suddenly receive a message saying "Your inflammatory and seditious message 'Erap You Unrepentant Thief! Resign!!' is not allowable under our Terms and Conditions. Please stay put while a nearby PAOCTF agent will come to arrest you. Have a Nice Day."

Now that one realizes this, suddenly, the senators don't seem to be too dumb anymore. Somehow one of their smarter advisers no doubt has made them realize, along with the rest of us, that text is the way to communicate to the modern Filipino. Text is now a part of our lives, and Mr. and Mrs. I'll Sing-and-Dance-and-Grovel-For-Your-Votes-Senator want to pass legislation to allow the government to check a message-under the guise of "just to make sure everything is right and dandy with the world."

In order to get public approval, it has to come in the guise of good governance, hence, soon after, there will be horror stories of criminals using text to operate their nefarious schemes. How a rapist could've been stopped if only we had intercepted his phone—and how, once allowed, the Philippines would be a safer place to live.

Well, here's what I say to the senators: "The best course of action that I believe would benefit all just happens to be the easiest—LEAVE TEXT ALONE. Checking messages for content is censorship, and when you look it up it also means 'gagging' and 'stifling' and 'repression.' And you know what, Mr. Senator, I don't think the Filipino would fall for that. If anything, Edsa proved that we just do not, cannot and will not allow that. Oh, by the way, would you really want someone to check your text and know about your excessive foreign trips, your scandalous misuse of public funds and various mistresses? It works both ways too, you know." *Pamela Angela S. Pastor*

'The music has died because of piracy'

Mitch Valdes, *president, Organisasyon ng mga Pilipinong Mang-aawit*

Our long-term goal is to get Congress to pass a Bill of Rights for Performers, which seeks to protect workers in theater, dance and other performing arts from abuses resulting from one-sided contracts. It also seeks to provide a level playing field by giving Filipino performers rights equal to those of their foreign counterparts.

Our short-term goals are the lifting of the tax on live concerts and performances and the curbing of piracy.

There's this idiotic 30-percent tax on concerts and theatrical productions. It's the same tax slapped on movies. But movies can be shown five times daily in one week, or even more, nationwide on scores of movie houses. A concert is only for one night. If you're a producer, the local government automatically gets 30-percent of the proceeds from tickets before you can get a license.

This tax is on top of the 10-percent VAT. So there's practically nothing left for the producer. Who will have the guts to be a producer unless one gets corporate sponsors? So, live shows are dying. Our shows have been lumped with cockfights, basketball games and flower exhibits, which are also slapped the 30-percent tax.

As for piracy, we are losing at least a billion pesos to pirates. Some of them are protected by drug lords, big businessmen and government officials. The music has died because of piracy. A strong military and police action is needed to fight piracy.

And then of course, there's Executive Order No. 255 requiring radio stations to play four local songs every hour. It's not being followed. *JVS*

PRIVATE PROPERTY NO TRESPASSING

'Sane tax policy will provide gov't with bundles of money'

Allan P.-E. Tolentino, *economist*

Aspirants for congressional positions who are serious about initiating reforms to improve the lives of the Filipino people should consider a radical overhaul of the country's tax policy and system.

The proposed land value tax is government taxation of natural resource rents valued at current market prices.

Publicly created or generated value is public property and subject to taxation for the public's benefit. A piece of land in the middle of either commercial Makati or Divisoria bears a high market value reflecting the combined productivity of all people living and working in the area. The contribution of the person, in whose name the piece of land is titled, is so miniscule compared to the combined contribution of his neighbors (including government) that social justice demands taxation of the public value for sharing equally with all contributors.

Taxation of publicly created market value is the only just means of equalizing opportunity in the use of limited resources which are unevenly distributed by nature.

On the other hand, all government levies on privately owned enterprises and trade must be abolished. Private enterprises, commodities and income are the private property of specific individuals and belong exclusively to the private producers concerned. Taxation of private property is confiscation of property without the producer's consent. Such indiscriminate taxation penalizes people and deters productivity and competition.

The resulting productivity loss translates into higher prices for consumers. Bigger economic losses also result from tax evasion in terms of employment loss and income paid to corrupt law enforcers.

So, to realize its socio-economic objectives, the government must focus its tax power on publicly created value, and its power to untax private property. The result will be a virtuous cycle of growth and equity.

Taxation of natural resource rents has beneficial implications to the following:

1. Tax Revenues–National government can source its operating budget exclusively from natural resource rents. With the money, it can pay all public debts and cover the deficit.

2. Employment–With a tax on land's market value, speculators hoarding land out of use will be forced to dispose of their land in the market.

3. Wages–With free land available as an employment option for life, workers are provided a potent bargaining leverage for higher wages in industry and elsewhere. Legislated minimum wages will become an impotent and useless exercise as the natural minimum wage from land available for the worker's use will be much higher than subsistence level. Workers will no longer compete among themselves for lower wages. Instead, employers will bid for high wages to acquire workers.

4. Housing–Taxation of natural resource rent will cause land prices to fall toward zero value. This makes land available at close to zero acquisition cost. The annual tax on land rent will be the regular expense of the land user. The house the land user will put up and house improvements will be tax-free. Low land price and declining prices of abundant tax-free construction materials will wipe out homelessness. Slums, squatter shanties, demolitions, and street children will fade into memory.

5. Infrastructure–Government gets paid substantial tax revenues for rights-of-way even before actual infrastructure construction begins.

6. Financial reform–Business diversity and growth are assured as speculation in land is severely penalized by the rental value tax. With land excluded de facto as collateral, banks and financial institutions will be forced to lend on the basis of business plans and programs, plant and equipment, inventories and receivables, and borrower's character and experience.

7. Urban renewal–Rehabilitation, renewal, and revival of decaying and derelict towns and cities in the country become a reality with a land value tax. The land value tax prevents land speculation and makes land available for redevelopment.

As pre-condition for economic success, the government has to undertake in the political/legislative arena the following:

Value natural resources at current market prices; repeal the land assessment levels provided in the Local Government Code; repeal the tax rate ceilings on land value provided in the Local Government Code; repeal taxes and levies on improvements found in local and national government revenue codes; tax the full market value of natural resource rent (about 10 to 15 percent of land value).

A sane tax policy will revive the economy and provide the government with bundles of money. Sanity, however, requires looking at natural resources as a tax source.

'Ban export of historical artifacts'

Ferdinand C. Llanes, *president, Asosasyon ng mga Dalubhasa, may Hilig at Interes sa Kasaysayan (Adhika) ng Pilipinas*

We want the incoming senators to act on the following:

1. Passage of a National Cultural Properties Act to regulate the acquisition of documents, materials, artifacts, and relics of significant historical and cultural importance; to provide adequate support for the restoration and/or renovation of identified historical and cultural structures and sites; and, to prohibit the export and sale of documents, materials, artifacts, and relics of historical and cultural importance.

The Act also seeks to protect structures and sites of historical and cultural importance by prohibiting their defacement, demolition and destruction; by seeking the evaluation and recommendation of historical and cultural experts before any action is taken; and, by allowing experts to supervise any action on these structures and sites.

2. Enforce the provisions in the Local Government Code that each local government unit must have a local historian.

The local historian, among other things, will assist the local government in identifying historical and cultural structures and sites as well as historical and archeological materials available locally. The historian will also help in preserving and properly documenting these materials, in evaluating the appropriate actions on historical and cultural structures and sites, in compiling data on local history and culture, and in initiating and encouraging research and publication on local history and culture.

The local government unit shall provide support for the work of the local historian who will conduct his work with the supervision of the National Historical Institute.

3. Passage of an Act to establish a National Book and Instructional Materials Board on History, to be composed of historians and cultural experts.

'Focus on child education and values formation'

Ernesto K. Magtoto, *member, Federation of Senior Citizens' Association*

Let us focus on child education, especially values formation. The quality of our collective consciousness depends on the quality of education we give our children until puberty, namely pre-school, kindergarten, grade school and high school. These are the most impressionable years.

That we are deluged with citizens who have strayed into lifestyles that are more destructive than constructive indicates our failure to help parents and guardians, who have insufficient education. They could undergo monthly or quarterly teach-ins so that they could learn the psychology of child-adult relationships.

We need to do something about the fact that many of our uneducated adults today have been taking advantage of the children, as the media reports show: exploitation for sex and other abuses. If we are going to improve the national consciousness, we must have an adult character development program while the children are getting their education. If we can do this, all the other things will just fall into place.

'Fight for rights of children and household help'

Hope Basiao-Abella, *co-executive director, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes*

All children deserve a happy childhood. They are human beings who have rights. Children have the right to bodily integrity but everyday we see and hear of child abuse and exploitation. They have been victims but are treated as offenders.

Children were the vast majority in People Power II. The same children have been disenfranchised and cannot participate in the elections. Will the general voting public be their spokesperson in the ballot? Will the elected officials prioritize bills for children?

There are four bills pending in the 11th Congress that deal with children and household help. How many of us would like to fight for the rights of domestic workers who are treated as unequal slaves in our households and push for the Batas Kaisambahay? Studies reveal that juvenile delinquents are children who have not enjoyed their rights. Will the Juvenile Justice Bill be a priority?

Our culture obligates children to help parents but does not obligate society to report their abuse and exploitation. Let's protect them through the passage of the Magna Carta on Child Labor and Trafficking Bill for Women and Children.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

'The street children problem has persisted '

Dodos de la Cruz, *Fr. O'brien-Angel's Home*

The street children problem has not been properly addressed for over a decade because most of the solutions offered are cosmetic.

At present, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) cannot by itself address the problem. Non-government organizations are doing their part to help the street children.

The government could not even provide the proper facilities for "child" addicts. While the police are busy running after *shabu* users and pushers, they neglect the plight of the rubber cement and solvent users. Our police force is not properly equipped and trained to handle child offenders. We do not even have separate prison cells for children. Thus, children and adult offenders are put into one cell where children are subjected to various forms of abuses.

Lack of financial and technical support from the government is hampering the operations of NGOs. Unless they are accredited by the DSWD, NGOs can not solicit funds from international funding agencies. The requirements for government accreditation include proper housing facilities, beds and paid staff.

All of this could not be properly met because NGOs can not be accredited and can not solicit funds abroad. It is a very irrational arrangement.

In the end, several NGOs, which have better programs, end up living with whatever meager funds they have. Instead of being able to help a hundred children we just content with 35.

Merle Jimenez-San Pedro, *board member, Volunteers Against Crime & Corruption*

We want the legislature to enact laws that address the basic problems of basic sectors, especially food, jobs and housing, and not the businesses of congressmen and senators.

All legislators and public servants must devote full time to public service: *serbisyo, hindi negosyo*. Public servants (from the President down to mayors) should make a public accounting of public funds placed in their trust and their accomplishments every month.

Peace negotiators get down to business in Oslo

OSLO, Norway—Communist rebels and the Philippine government are ready to delve into the thorny issues of social and democratic reforms as peace talks on ending a 32-year conflict reconvened Saturday.

About 15 government representatives and nearly 30 rebels focused on logistics and formalities in opening their meeting with an upbeat tone on Friday at the picturesque Holmen-kollen Park Hotel, founded in 1894 and overlooking the Norwegian capital.

Luis Jalandoni, chairman of the Marxist umbrella rebel group National Democratic Front, said the talks would begin in earnest Saturday with difficult issues like social and democratic reforms on the table.

But the chief political consultant for the rebels said the two sides couldn't help but touch on some issues already.

"The start of the work is tomorrow, but they are practically working now," Jose Maria Sison said as negotiators faced each other in a jovial mood in the hotel's Nobel Room, a reminder of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded each year in Oslo. "That means they are enthusiastic."

Negotiators stressed that the four-day talks are just the first step of a three-phase peace process they hope to complete in 18 months.

"If we allow six months for each substantive issue, then we have 18 months," chief government negotiator Silvestre Bello III said.

The 32-year rebellion, in which communist forces have been fighting for a Marxist state, has killed and displaced thousands and impeded economic development in one of Asia's poorest nations.

The two sides also were reviewing an agreement on human rights and international law reached before talks collapsed in 1999. The accord has so far not been implemented. Bello said the rebels have a lengthy proposal on that issue and he hopes they can work through the beginning in Oslo.

The next two phases of long-term talks will cover political and constitutional reform, and finally a permanent end to hostilities.

Jalandoni, the rebel leader who is based in the Netherlands, said he hopes to see goodwill gestures from the government, such as speeding up the release of political prisoners, helping the nation's poor and protecting land rights.

He also looked to the world for "moral support and assistance to the Filipino people's struggle for a just and lasting peace." *AP*

Napocor vows: No blackout in polls

By R. W. Domingo

THE NATIONAL Power Corp. will lead a government inter-agency task force that will be formed to prevent any power outage on May 14, the day of the elections.

"Barring an act of God, we will be able to keep electricity on during election time," Napocor president Jesus N. Alcordo said.

He said the task force would be composed of representatives of the Philippine National Police, Armed Forces, local government units, Commission on Elections and National Intelligence Coordinating Authority.

The task force, Alcordo added, would also beef up maintenance and inspection of the Napocor's transmission lines.

An early-morning, island-wide power outage hit Luzon on April 7, giving rise to fears of election-related sabotage.

The Napocor attributed the blackout to an overheated transmission line, but also said the theft of its high-tension cables was a big factor.

Last month, the power firm reported losses of P3 million a day because of transmission problems resulting from the collapse of a tower in Laguna.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

On May 8th 2001, the German Embassy in Manila will introduce a fully automated telephone appointment system for its Visa section.

This telephone appointment system will assist those persons who intend to travel to the Schengen countries and Germany in particular to appear at a scheduled time at the Embassy and also provides detailed information on the documentation certain categories of visa applicants are required to show to support their application.

Appointments for May 14th and beyond can be booked from May 8th 2001 through telephone number:

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The Embassy also announces the new fax number of the Visa section:

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All documentation to be faxed should be addressed to the Visa section at this number. Emergency appointments can also be booked through this particular faxnumber.

The WORLD

Wahid issues apology, but censure to proceed

JAKARTA—Indonesia's Parliament looked set to press ahead with a censure motion against President Abdurrahman Wahid despite an uncharacteristic apology by the embattled leader, lawmakers said yesterday.

It was also unclear whether a call for peace by Wahid in a televised national address on Friday would be enough to prevent violent protests from breaking out before the legislature meets on Monday.

Parliament first censured Wahid on Feb. 1. If it does so again, he could be impeached over corruption allegations during the coming months.

Thousands of Wahid supporters arrived in the capital yesterday. Some have formed paramilitary groups and have said they are willing to die for him. Anti-Wahid groups have pledged to hold rival demonstrations.

Security around Jakarta was tight. The first big test for police and troops will come on Sunday, when Wahid loyalists are to hold a mass Islamic prayer rally. Organizers have said the event will be big, but peaceful.

Foreign embassies have requested extra security and uniformed personnel were stationed at potential trouble spots, although the city was quiet.

Cabinet held an unscheduled meeting yesterday without Wahid and Vice President Megawati Sukarnoputri, his most likely successor.

"We are coordinating our actions to anticipate developments so that there will not be a state of emergency," security minister Gen. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono said.

Palace officials said the president was visiting the island of Madura, off the coast of East Java, where he is revered as an Islamic cleric and sage.

Megawati's aides said she was ill with a cold. She has stayed out of public view for several days and ignored Wahid's invitation to take part in Friday's address to the nation. This has heightened speculation of a rift between the two.

Her party is the largest in parliament and her support is crucial to Wahid's political survival.

In an undisguised overture toward her in his televised speech, Wahid praised her work as his deputy and admitted that it was only through unusual political circumstances that he beat her in a 1999 presidential election.

He also asked Indonesians to forgive his mistakes and warned that dumping him would not solve the nation's deep economic and political crisis.

"Don't be too hasty in judging me and then trying to oust me," he said.

He said he took office 18 months ago when the country was in ruins, following three decades of corrupt dictatorship under former President Suharto. It was unfair blame him alone for an ongoing economic crisis and sporadic bouts of violence, Wahid said. *AP*

Hitler half-genius, half-mad, his doctor told a CIA informant

WASHINGTON—Adolf Hitler was a "border case between genius and insanity," the Nazi leader's doctor told a US informant before World War II, predicting he could become "the craziest criminal the world ever knew," a CIA document shows.

The document is among 10,000 pages of CIA files declassified Friday in an effort to shed more light on Nazi war criminals and how Western governments later used them as intelligence sources.

The comments reportedly made by German surgeon Ferdinand Sauerbruch were written in a Dec. 7, 1944, memo from an employee named Ron Carroll of the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the US Central Intelligence Agency.

Carroll noted at the outset of the memo that there was a question about the informant's credibility. But he went on to report that an informant named Hans Bie told him he had talked to Sauerbruch at a party in January 1937 and that Sauerbruch discussed Hitler.

"Sauerbruch . . . stated that from close observation of Hitler for many years, he had formed the opinion that the Nazi leader was a border case between genius and insanity and that . . . the decision would take place in the near future whether Hitler's mind would swing toward the latter," Carroll's memo said.

"Sauerbruch then said that should the latter occur, Hitler would become "the craziest criminal the world every saw," the memo said.

It went on to say that when Bie and Sauerbruch met again in April 1937, the doctor stated that "in his opinion, the swing toward insanity had taken place and that the first symptom was the dismissal of moderate members of Hitler's government." *AP*

Millionaire becomes first space tourist

BAIKONUR, Kazakstan—A Russian rocket lifted off flawlessly yesterday from the Baikonur cosmodrome, carrying the first space tourist, American Dennis Tito, and two cosmonauts to the International Space Station.

The Soyuz rocket blasted off from the barren steppes of Central Asia under sunny, blue skies, and disappeared into the heavens, trailing a red flame and leaving a faint contrail. The spaceship carrying Tito, a 60-year-old California businessman, was scheduled to dock with the ISS on Monday.

A television monitor inside the spaceship showed Tito, in a white spacesuit decorated with an American flag on the shoulder and a plexiglass helmet, grinning broadly.

A ground controller asked in Russian-accented English, "How do you feel, Dennis?"

"Khorosho," he replied in Russian—"Great."

Until the eve of the launch, US and Russian space officials had argued behind the scenes about the overlap of the Soyuz rocket launch and the continued docking of US space shuttle Endeavor at the space station.

"We are glad to have lived to see this exciting moment," Russian Aerospace Agency chief told the crew just before they entered the spaceship early yesterday, according to the Itar-Tass news agency.

"The stars have been favorable to us," he said.

Computer problems have kept the Endeavor at the station longer than expected as astronauts try to carry out operations of a critical robot arm. Nasa said that docking the Russian spacecraft next to the US shuttle could be extremely delicate and potentially dangerous.

Russian space officials refused to delay Saturday's launch but agreed to put the Soyuz in a holding pattern if the shuttle was still at the space station on Monday.

Nasa said the shuttle could leave Sunday, but only if the computer trouble was resolved quickly. The Soyuz TM-32 spaceship could orbit for up to four days if necessary before docking, the Interfax news agency reported, citing Russian Aerospace Agency spokesperson Sergei Gorbunov.

The eleventh-hour dispute over the timing of the blastoff followed a long wrangle over whether a tourist should go to the space station at all. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Mideast violence persists despite meet

JERUSALEM—Israeli troops fired grenade launchers and machine guns Friday to repel Palestinian gunmen in the West Bank, close to where top security officials from both sides had met just hours earlier to try to reduce the violence. Seven Palestinians, including two police officers, were wounded in the battle on the outskirts of the West Bank town of Ramallah. Two buildings were damaged. In the Gaza Strip, nine Palestinians were injured, one critically, when Israeli soldiers fired at youths throwing stones at an Israeli post near the Karni crossing, doctors said. Two Palestinians were wounded by Israel fire elsewhere in Gaza. Israeli and Palestinian field commanders in Ramallah and in the Gaza Strip held talks Friday morning. A senior Palestinian official said on condition of anonymity that security cooperation, a pillar of interim peace deals, was being resumed. But an Israeli official was pessimistic that anything would come out of the meetings. "No one can say that they will be useful but we have to try," said Defense Ministry spokesperson Shlomo Dror. *AP*

India, Bangladesh leaders to hold talks

DHAKA—Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed is set to hold talks in New Delhi next month with her Indian counterpart after border clashes between the neighbors strained ties, her foreign secretary said yesterday. Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to travel to the Belgian capital to take part in a summit of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) on May 14 and stop on her way home to open a new Bangladesh government building in New Delhi. The summit meeting with Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee could take place during the stop-over or even during an extended stay in the capital, newspapers reported yesterday. The leaders of the two usually friendly countries held a phone conversation last week after border skirmishes left 16 Indian and three Bangladesh soldiers dead. *AFP*

6 Red Cross workers killed in Congo

KINSHASA, Congo—Attackers with guns and machetes shot and slashed to death six Red Cross workers on a remote road in eastern Congo, leaving their bodies to be discovered in their burned vehicles, aid workers said Friday. The ambush Thursday marked the deadliest single attack on the International Committee of the Red Cross in five years. The victims were a Swiss nurse, a Colombian relief worker and four Congolese. Some were shot, others were both shot and cut with machetes, said Boni Mbaka, a UN official who saw some of the bodies. The Red Cross immediately suspended operations in eastern Congo, the region hardest hit by a two-and-a-half-year war that has involved six nations. *AP*

Ethiopian hijackers identified

ADDIS ABABA—Authorities in Addis Ababa have identified five Ethiopians who hijacked a military plane with 51 people aboard and forced it to land in Khartoum, the WIC news agency reported yesterday. The five who diverted the Antonov plane on Thursday included three armed hijackers named as Berhanu Tegegn, Abebaw Wale and Habtamu Wale, all military personnel aged around 20 who recently failed tests to become fighter pilots, a foreign ministry official told the Walta Information Center (WIC). The three were armed with pistols, hand grenades and knives, the official said, according to WIC, which is close to the authorities. Two unarmed people involved in the incident were Firewoini Tegegn, Berhanu Tegegn's sister, and Moris Belay, who is a relative of one of the three armed hijackers. The group surrendered before dawn on Friday after 10 hours of negotiations at the airport and said they staged the hijacking to escape tough political and economic conditions at home. *AFP*

Sri Lankan troops retreat as toll hits 377

COLOMBO—Intense Tamil Tiger resistance has beaten Sri Lankan troops back to their original lines with the death toll from the latest fighting rising to 377 on both sides, the defense ministry said yesterday. Troops were forced to reverse a major advance launched in northeast Sri Lanka Wednesday because of heavy artillery and mortar bomb attacks by the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). The defense ministry said the Army suffered 187 killed and 860 seriously wounded since Wednesday, and placed rebel losses at 190 dead and over 400 wounded. However, the LTTE said over its clandestine Voice of Tigers radio that it had lost only 43 of its guerrillas and placed military losses at 1,500 dead and wounded. *AFP*

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Your 93rd Annual Convention manifests the PDA's commitment to the discovery of innovative dental and the absorption of new knowledge pertaining to dental health care. As conveyed in your theme "Prof Excellence in the 21st Century", this affair will certainly create opportunities for Filipino dentists to furth achievements in the interest of our countrymen.

I urge all the participants to contribute to our goal of a more healthy and productive citizenry.

MABUHAY!

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-A
President
Republic of the Philip

I welcome with great fervor all our guests, participants and member dentists to our 93rd PDA Annual Con and Scientific Meeting from April 29 - May 5, 2001 at the Philippine International Convention Center World Trade Center. No doubt, they are the ones who are struggling for professional excellence as refl our theme: "Professional Excellence in the 21st Century".

I call on each and everyone to get involved in most of our activities to manifest their commitment to challenges that lie ahead. As we advance our profession to its highest peak, let us altogether remain an ex vehicle in demonstrating our professional capacity for unity, achievement and service.

With this annual convention, I hope we will exert all our best efforts that will unite and dignify us as profe dentists ready to serve, the cause of the Filipino people.

As President-Elect and General Chairman of the 93rd PDA Annual Convention, I salute all members fro and abroad who will attend this convention. To the EXECOM and the Organizing Committee me my sincere thanks and appreciation for all your valuable help and contributions. Mabuhay and Congratulations!

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April 29(Sunday)
8:00 am - 1:00 pm Pierre Fauchard Academy (Phil. Section) - Mla Midtown Hotel
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration (PICC)
8:00 am - 7:00 pm Ingress - Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center
1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Leadership Seminar (Traders Hotel)
7:00 pm ICD Convocation*

April 30 (Monday)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration (PICC)
9:00 am - 10:00 am Mass (PICC Lobby)
10:00 am - 12:00 pm Meeting of Deans of Dental Colleges (Hyatt Regency Hotel)
1:30 pm Opening Ceremony-PICC Plenary Hall
3:30 pm Formal Opening of Trade Exhibits (World Trade Center)
3:30 pm - 6:00 pm Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center
6:00 pm - 12:00 mn First Plenary Session, HOD (Manila Midtown Hotel)

May 1 (Tuesday)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration (PICC)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Scientific Session (PICC)
9:00 am Opening of Health Screening (PICC)
10:00 am - 1:00 pm Alumni Homecoming
9:00 am - 6:00 pm Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center (New Product Presentation & Table Clinics)
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Presidents' Dialogue (Westin Philippine Plaza)
7:00 pm - 12:00 pm Fellowship Night (Westin Philippine Plaza)

May 2 (W
8:00 am - 2:00
8:00 am - 4:00
8:00 am - 4:00
9:00 am - 4:00
9:00 am - 6:00
7:00 pm - 12:00

Africans to boost anti-AIDS spending

ABUJA, Nigeria—African leaders signed a declaration Friday urging a boost in spending in the fight against the AIDS pandemic, while emphasizing the need for affordable drugs to treat the millions infected on the continent.

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, speaking at the close of a two-day African summit on AIDS and related diseases, called the agreement the "end of the beginning and beginning of the end" of HIV's spread in Africa, where 26 million people are infected.

"For some time, we seemed to be unsure and uncertain of what to do about HIV/AIDS," Obasanjo said. "I believe we have come to the end of that uncertainty with the end of this summit. We are clear in our minds of where to go and how to go."

The document calls on the 53 African states to "target" spending an eventual 15 percent of national budgets on health programs, including a significant proportion on AIDS.

Extra funds should also be committed to AIDS education, training and research programs, the document says.

Most African countries' health spending does not exceed 5 percent to 7 percent of their budgets. The declaration gave no timeline for the new spending target.

The document also encouraged African governments to use "appropriate legislation and international trade regulations" to provide affordable and effective AIDS drugs to those infected with the disease.

The virus has killed 23 million people globally, including 17 million in sub-Saharan Africa.

Former US President Clinton, who attended the summit in a private capacity, estimated Thursday that up to 100 million more people could die in the next decade unless the spread of the disease is stemmed.

Some summit observers said the declaration was significantly watered down from a preliminary version hammered out by African ministers earlier in the week.

The final document did not mention a proposal to import and produce controversial generic "copycat" HIV drugs to make treatment affordable to Africans.

"The devil is in the details," said Babar Hashmi, a Pakistan government official who was an invited observer at the summit. "The conference participants had very laudable goals, but let's see how well they will be able to implement them." *AP*

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Election of PDA Officers (PICC)
Registration (PICC)
Health Screening (PICC)
Scientific Session (PICC)
Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center (New Product Presentation & Table Clinics)
Awards Night*

May 3 (Thursday)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration (PICC)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Health Screening (PICC)
9:00 am - 4:00 pm Scientific Session (PICC)
9:00 am - 6:00 pm Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center (New Product Presentation & Table Clinics)
7:00 am - 12:00 nn Second Plenary Session, HOD (Traders Hotel)

May 4 (Friday)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration (PICC)
9:00 am - 4:00 pm Scientific Session (PICC)
9:00 am - 6:00 pm Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center (New Product Presentation & Table Clinics)
6:00 pm - 12:00 mn Presidents' Night* (Westin Philippine Plaza)

May 5 (Saturday)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration (PICC)
9:00 am - 4:00 pm Scientific Session (PICC)
10:00 am - 12:00 nn Trade Exhibit, World Trade Center
1:00 pm Egress-Trade Exhibits
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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

ROUNDUP

Dead woman found

MALOLOS, Bulacan—Residents found the naked body of a woman, believed to be a rape victim, in a grassy area in Barangay Balite here on Monday. Police said the sex organ of the woman was stuffed with P280 in bills of various denominations. Police said the woman had medium build and was between 35 and 40 years old. She had a bullet wound in the throat. The body was taken to the St. Matthew Funeral Homes here. ***Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Fake dollar bill

BALANGA CITY—Police arrested an Indian on a charge of trading a fake $100 bill with a money changer here. Police said Gyru Charn Singh, 32, of Sta. Mesa, Manila, was arrested following a complaint from Elmer Yambao, owner of a money-changing outlet at the Balanga Plaza Arcade. Police records showed that Singh, who had been using aliases, had earlier cashed a fake traveler's check worth $13,000 in Yambao's shop. ***Greg Refraccion, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Bandits seize cattle

DIGOS CITY—Cattle rustlers struck again in Kiblawan, Davao del Sur. On Friday night, police reported that bandits seized 12 heads of cattle owned by residents of Barangays Pocaleel and Bulolsalo in Kiblawan. Supt. Guillermo Lara, provincial police chief, ordered an intensified hunt for the bandits. ***Allan A. Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Dengue alarm raised

DIGOS CITY—Health authorities in North Cotabato are alarmed over the rising cases of dengue fever in Kidapawan City and four other towns of North Cotabato. Razon Bagaoisan, provincial sanitary inspector, said that since March, 116 cases have been recorded in Kidapawan, Matalam, Kabacan, Midsayap and M'lang. In Kidapawan alone, at least 28 cases were treated in various hospitals this month. Bagaoisan attributed the dengue resurgence to the villagers' failure to clean up possible breeding places of the disease-carrying mosquito. ***Allan A. Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Lightning kills couple

COTABATO CITY—A couple died when the house of a relative they were visiting in Buldon, Maguindanao, was hit by lightning on Friday night. A woman, who is nine months pregnant, was seriously hurt. Salik Pilandok and his wife Fatiman, died from serious burns all over their bodies. The victims were preparing for dinner about 6 p.m. when the lightning struck in Barangay Oring in Buldon. Intan Dekampong, 30, who was with the couple inside the nipa hut, was brought to the Cotabato Regional and Medical Center here for treatment of minor burns. ***Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila HI 35° Lo 24°	**Baguio** HI 27° Lo 16°	**Tuguegarao** HI 35° Lo 23°
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Cebu HI 32° Lo 25°	**Tacloban** HI 34° Lo 25°	**Gen. Santos** HI 31° Lo 24°
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Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research

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Rebs raid Camarines town hall

BY JUAN ESCANDOR JR.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

GAINZA, Camarines Sur—About 60 New People's Army rebels raided the town hall here on Friday, police officials said.

Insp. Ricardo Nocos, Gainza police chief, said two female guerrillas entered the police station about 11:30 a.m. while he was signing a police clearance.

The rebels poked their guns at his back and ordered him and other people who were working in the covered court outside to lie on the ground, Nocos related.

He said only a few government employees were in the town hall at that time and only four policemen were in the station because the three other officers on duty took their lunch break.

Nocos said that when one of the guerrillas recognized him as the chief of police, he heard them say he should be brought with them.

"I gambled and grabbed my .45 cal. pistol at the table because I told myself that they would still kill me, so I fought it out and shot one of the female rebels," he said.

The police officer said this rattled the rebels and gave him and his men the chance to fight back.

Nocos said the guerrillas seized an M-16 rifle and a 9-mm pistol from the houses of policemen before they proceeded to the town hall.

They simultaneously raided the town hall offices and confiscated computers and radios. They ordered the government employees to bring the units outside the offices.

Nocos said the computers were left behind when the raiders fled.

He said the NPA members withdrew after two of their comrades were hit during the gunfight. They fled on two pump boats while others ran in different directions, he said.

In Camp Olivas, Pampanga, police officials on Saturday announced the killing of three suspected rebels and the capture of another in an encounter Friday that frustrated an alleged plan to kill San Luis Mayor Jayson Sagum.

Senior Supt. Ismael Rafanan, Pampanga police director, identified the slain rebels only by their aliases, Ka George, Ka Sonny and Ka Milan of the Rebolusyonaryong Hukbong Bayan (RHB).

Rafanan did not say where the bodies were brought.

He said Federico Dimacali, also known as Ka Brandon, was captured after a 30-minute clash with policemen in Barangay San Isidro, about 5 kilometers from where Sagum was supposed to appear in a rally at the town center on Friday.

Dimacali is detained at the Pampanga police jail.

Supporters of Sagum reported the murder plot, Rafanan said.

Police also seized five M-16 rifles and one M-14 rifle after the gunfight that started at 11:30 a.m.

Rafanan said Friday's incident was the first election-related encounter in the province.

Citing statements made by Dimacali during police interrogation, Rafanan said the rebels belonged to the unit led by a certain Commander Venus of the RHB, the armed wing of the Marxist-Leninist Party of the Philippines.

But in text messages sent as replies to queries of reporters, RHB spokesperson Red Olalia denied that the slain men were RHB members.

Olalia claimed that they were NPA members.

NPA sources, however, have not responded to reporters' requests for confirmation at press time. ***With a report from Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

CAMPAIGN TRAIL

NPA owns killing of Canlaon mayoral candidate, 5 others

BY ALEX V. PAL,
CARLA P. GOMEZ
AND ROMY G. AMARADO
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—The communist New People's Army has owned up the ambush-slaying of Canlaon City vice mayor and mayoral candidate Jose Cardenas, his sister and four of their companions in Barangay Budlasan in Canlaon.

A man claiming to be a spokesperson of the Communist Party of the Philippines' NPA Guerrilla Command 3 told radio station dyEZ based in Negros Occidental that Cardenas was killed because of his "sins against the people."

Cardenas, he said, had been on the order of battle of the regional committee because of "his anti-revolutionary activities and crimes against the people."

The man refused to give his name to the radio station but promised that his group would come up with a formal statement on the killing.

Ambush

Sources in the underground movement confirmed that the NPA was involved in the ambush.

About 12 men fired at the Isuzu pickup with Cardenas, mayoral candidate of Lakas-NUCD, and his companions aboard, about 4 p.m. Friday in Sitio Pinamintigan in Budlasan, about five kilometers from the city proper.

The victims were on their way home from a political rally in Sitio Bulacan.

Also killed were Canlaon Councilor Hospicio Condes Jr., spokesperson of the Lakas-NUCD in the city; Calvin Neri, Ricardo Oka and Telesforo Fajardo.

Jessica Cardenas, Jose's sister and a councilor of Canlaon, was declared dead on arrival at a hospital in San Carlos City.

Five were wounded in the attack. They were Jimmy Clerigo, Cardenas' running mate; Nick Malones, Ramil Salazar, Cherry del Leonardo and Julius Escala.

Escala is now confined at the Riverside Medical Center in Bacolod City. A bullet is embedded in the left side of his head, but the doctors said his condition was stable.

Capt. Ricky Bunayog of the Army's 66th Infantry Battalion said the assailants made sure that they killed their target before fleeing.

Death threats

After firing on the party of Cardenas, he said the gunmen approached the victims to make sure that the man they killed was the vice mayor.

Cardenas had been receiving death threats from the NPA rebels, Bunayog said. The vice mayor did not make this a secret and informed some people about the threat.

Because of these threats, Cardenas was known to transfer to two other vehicles while traveling the 165-km stretch from Canlaon to Dumaguete.

Cardenas had always thought that the death threats were normal, said Jesus Cañete, former Commission on Human Rights special investigator for Dumaguete.

He said Cardenas thought the threats came only from a few people because he had a policy of befriending his enemies.

"Still, many people don't like me and I can't help that, because that's politics," Cañete recalled Cardenas as saying.

Col. Alfonsus Crucero, 303rd Infantry Brigade commander, said Cardenas called him up Friday morning to inform him that armed men were sighted near the site where he was to hold a rally in Sitio Bulacan.

He said he told Cardenas to wait for his men who would be his security escorts.

But Crucero's men arrived too late. By the time they went to Cardenas' home in Canlaon, the vice mayor had already left for the rally.

Hot spot

Canlaon was one of the areas identified by the Commission on Elections as an "area of concern" because of sightings of armed men in the area, believed to be NPA members.

Politics is also being hotly contested in Canlaon. Cardenas was running against Julius Amarador of the Nationalist People's Coalition.

The Comelec in Negros Oriental has recommended that Canlaon be placed under Comelec control to prevent "further bloodshed" following the ambush.

Rogelio Benjamin, Comelec provincial supervisor, said more policemen and Army soldiers would be deployed in Canlaon once the Comelec central office approves his recommendation.

FOR VICE GOVERNOR

OPPOSITION COUNTRY? ALLAN NAWAL

Davao del Sur appears to be a political bailiwick of the opposition, gauging by the number of people who attended Tuesday's rally of the Puwersa ng Masa in the province. Some 4,000 supporters of deposed President Joseph Estrada converged at the Rizal Park in Digos City, three hours before the PnM rally started.

WAR EXERCISES

Transfer of Aetas proposed

BY TONETTE OREJAS
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—The Presidential Commission on the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFACom) on Friday recommended the transfer of 50 Aeta families living near the Crow Valley firing range in Capas, Tarlac.

This would ensure their safety while Filipino and American troops are holding four gunnery exercises there starting Monday, it said.

The VFACom, an inter-agency body monitoring the conduct of VFA-related military exercises, aired the advice to Philippine and American directors of Balikatan-01, the first large-scale exercise that began here Friday, according to Elmer Cato, commission spokesman.

On the instructions of Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr., concurrently foreign secretary, Cato, Ambassador Minerva Falcon and Maj. Casiano Monilla flew to Capas on Thursday to verify reports of an Aeta settlement in Tarukan.

Tarukan, according to Cato, is less than a kilometer east of the firing range. It is the nearest village revived 10 km west of Mt. Pinatubo.

Cato said the commission especially raised concern for the Aetas in Tarukan after Philippine Air Force officials confirmed a bombing accident there during Cope Thunder, a large-scale military exercise held by US troops sometime in the 1980s.

An American aircraft doing "skip bombing techniques" misfired an inert bomb. Although no Aetas were reported hurt, Aeta families there were evacuated to Sitio Doray after the incident, the INQUIRER learned.

To this day and despite claims of ancestral domain, the upland areas of Capas and nearby Bamban town continue to be military reservations under the management of the Department of National Defense.

Cato said Col. Roberto Nuqui, Balikatan-01 co-director, gave assurance that the Armed Forces of the Philippines was "willing to cancel the event" should there be "any indication at any point that the gunnery exercises might cause damage to life and property."

Cato said the Balikatan directors were urged to review safety procedures.

"The American side was strongly encouraged to conduct the exercises like they do in the United States where environmental laws and civilian safety measures are stringent," he added.

Cato said no live bombs would be used during the gunnery exercises.

Only inert bombs and rockets the size of machine gun bullets and which do not explode on impact will be used, he said.

"Vice President Guingona has emphasized the need for 100-percent safety among the civilian populace," Cato said.

The Aetas in Tarukan were suggested to move to Sta. Juliana, some 4 kilometers east of the village. The Aetas here, after a futile stay in Dueg resettlement site, decided to permanently return to Tarukan since last January.

Cato declined to use the word "evacuation" when referring to the plan to transfer the Aetas. He said the Philippine Air Force stationed in Capas would be asked to send trucks to the village in the event of a transfer, possibly today. ***With a report from Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Slain Ilocos mayor buried

STA. LUCIA, Ilocos Sur—Wearing black armbands and carrying placards, about 1,000 residents and officials led by Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson attended the burial of slain Mayor Teodoro Hernaez at the town cemetery here yesterday.

The supporters carried huge banners that demanded justice for Hernaez's death.

Hernaez and his three police escorts were gunned down while attending the fiesta celebration in Barangay Namatican on April 18.

"We are still seeking justice of our father's tragic death," Dr. Ferdinand Hernaez, son of the slain mayor, told the INQUIRER.

Earlier, the Alfredo Cesar Command of the New People's Army owned responsibility for the killing. The command, which operates in southern Ilocos Sur, accused the mayor of being "anti-people and counter-revolutionary" during his term.

The young Hernaez said his family strongly belied the NPA's claims about the slain mayor's wrongdoings. The family, he said, believed Hernaez was killed because of politics.

"The people of Sta. Lucia should not have elected my father into office for two terms if he was bad," Hernaez said.

Newly installed Mayor Romulo Gracia, Hernaez's political rival, was not invited during the necrological service.

Gracia, who has denied any involvement in the mayor's slaying, issued a letter of condolence to Hernaez's family.

"Though much have been said in moment of pain, sorrow and even some in anger, we remain steadfast in our sincere prayers for your family's peace and safety," Gracia said. He said his family was extending their condolences "following the dictates of our conscience that our Christian values are deeper and more basic than any political color and issues."

Gracia had requested the Commission on Elections to provide him with police escorts after receiving threats from unidentified people. ***Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Domestic helpers observe 'Araw ng Kasambahay'

DAVAO CITY—Hundreds of domestic helpers are gathering here today to observe the "Araw ng Kasambahay" or Domestic Helpers Day and call the public and government's attention to their sorry plight.

The activity, organized by the helpers under the Samahan at Ugnayan ng mga Manggagawang Pantahanan sa Pilipinas (Sumapi), also aimed to educate both domestic helpers and their employers about the helpers' rights and to involve them in pushing for legislative programs to protect those rights.

Diana Ingga, a former domestic helper and convenor of Sumapi, said the gathering at the Assumption School of Davao College gymnasium would also serve as an opportunity to draw broad support for their campaign for a Magna Carta for domestic helpers.

Ingga said the institutionalization of the Magna Carta would protect the helpers and advance their rights and welfare.

She said that with public support, the new members of Congress would be able to give priority to the legislative measure.

Records from the International Labor Organization-International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor indicated that some 800,000 children were serving as domestic helpers in the country. ***Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Measles outbreak hits tribal villages; 5 children die

DAVAO CITY—Five children died while 33 others were stricken ill following a measles outbreak that struck Bagobo and Manobo villages in the hinterland areas of Marilog District here two weeks ago.

Government medical workers had not been able to contain the outbreak that affected remote communities in Barangay Gumitan earlier. A medical team arrived in the area only on Thursday.

Dr. Miguel Oppus, chief of the City Health Office, said he learned about the outbreak only on Tuesday from a group of Christian "born-again" missionaries working in the area.

Oppus sent 12 medical workers to help the victims and deliver vaccines to the area. But the team was able to reach Sitio Balete in Gumitan, the only village accessible to vehicles. There are no roads leading to the areas where most of the measles victims live.

Gumitan could be reached by foot after 12 hours of climbing steep cliffs and walking through forested mountains, the health official said.

The constraints prompted health authorities to negotiate for the use of helicopters that will bring doctors and nurses immediately to the village.

Oppus also said the 12-hour trek to the village would also destroy the anti-measles vaccines which, he added, must be covered with ice for 24 hours to preserve their efficacy.

On Wednesday, the medical team reached Gumitan after the Philippine Air Force approved the use of Huey helicopters in bringing the doctors, nurses, vaccines and other medical and food supplies.

Oppus said the outbreak was contained on Thursday.

"The area is very remote, but it was too late for us to learn about the outbreak. We can assure you, however, that we have done the necessary medical intervention to stop the further spread of measles," Oppus said.

He identified four of the children who died as Stella Niloloy, Rosalina Uyaw, one Cumiraw and a certain Wating.

Six of the 33 children found afflicted with measles developed pneumonia, diarrhea and other complications. They were airlifted to the Davao Medical Center here.

The medical team also found 435 other *lumads* suffering from malaria, fever, upper respiratory tract infection and other ailments.

Oppus noted that the deaths in Gumitan came only less than a month after 11 children were stricken by measles in Barangays Malikongkong, Sumilok and Alop, also in Marilog.

Cases of measles usually occur during summer, Oppus said.

He admitted that the children in Gumitan have not been immunized despite the government's vaunted immunization campaign nationwide. ***Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Another Revilla in local politics

CABANATUAN CITY—Another son of Sen. Ramon Revilla is trying his hand in politics.

Film producer Ramon Nicolas Bautista, 46, is running for mayor of San Leonardo town. He is the third member of the Revilla show biz clan to engage in politics.

His half-brother, Cavite Gov. Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr., is seeking reelection.

Bautista, who uses his nickname Mon Revilla Jr. in his campaign materials, is the son of the senator by the late Pacita Nicolas of Barangay Adorable in San Leonardo.

He had a taste of politics in 1987 when he was elected barangay chair of Adorable. After his term expired, he put up the RNB Films and concentrated on producing movies.

The young Revilla, a Lakas candidate, is running against four others, three of them relatives of incumbent Mayor Eulinio Nagaño.

They are Arnold Amis Nagaño and his brother, Froilan Amis Nagaño, and Hortencia Almacha Nagaño, wife of Mayor Nagaño. The fifth candidate is Eduardo Longalong.

Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Comelec finds 483 illegal registrants

DUMAGUETE CITY—The Commission on Elections has discovered 483 illegal registrants in Bais City and nearby Mabinay town.

Rogelio Benjamin, Comelec provincial supervisor, said 237 voters were found to have registered twice in Barangays Lono, Canlangco, Cambaguio and Mabunao in Bais, 45 kilometers north of here.

Fifty-three registered voters in Barangay Mayaposi, Campanon-an, Pantao, Conggohop and Tara in Mabinay were found to have also registered in Barangays Cambagahan, Panalaan, Tagpo and Sab-ahan in Bais.

A total of 183 residents of Mabinay, many of them from Mayaposi, were found to have registered in different barangays in Bais.

Although they were first-time registrants, Benjamin said they violated the law when they claimed to be Bais residents.

Under the law, voters should register in their place of residence.

Benjamin said the Comelec would file charges against the illegal registrants, including those who lured them to violate the law.

Romy G. Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau

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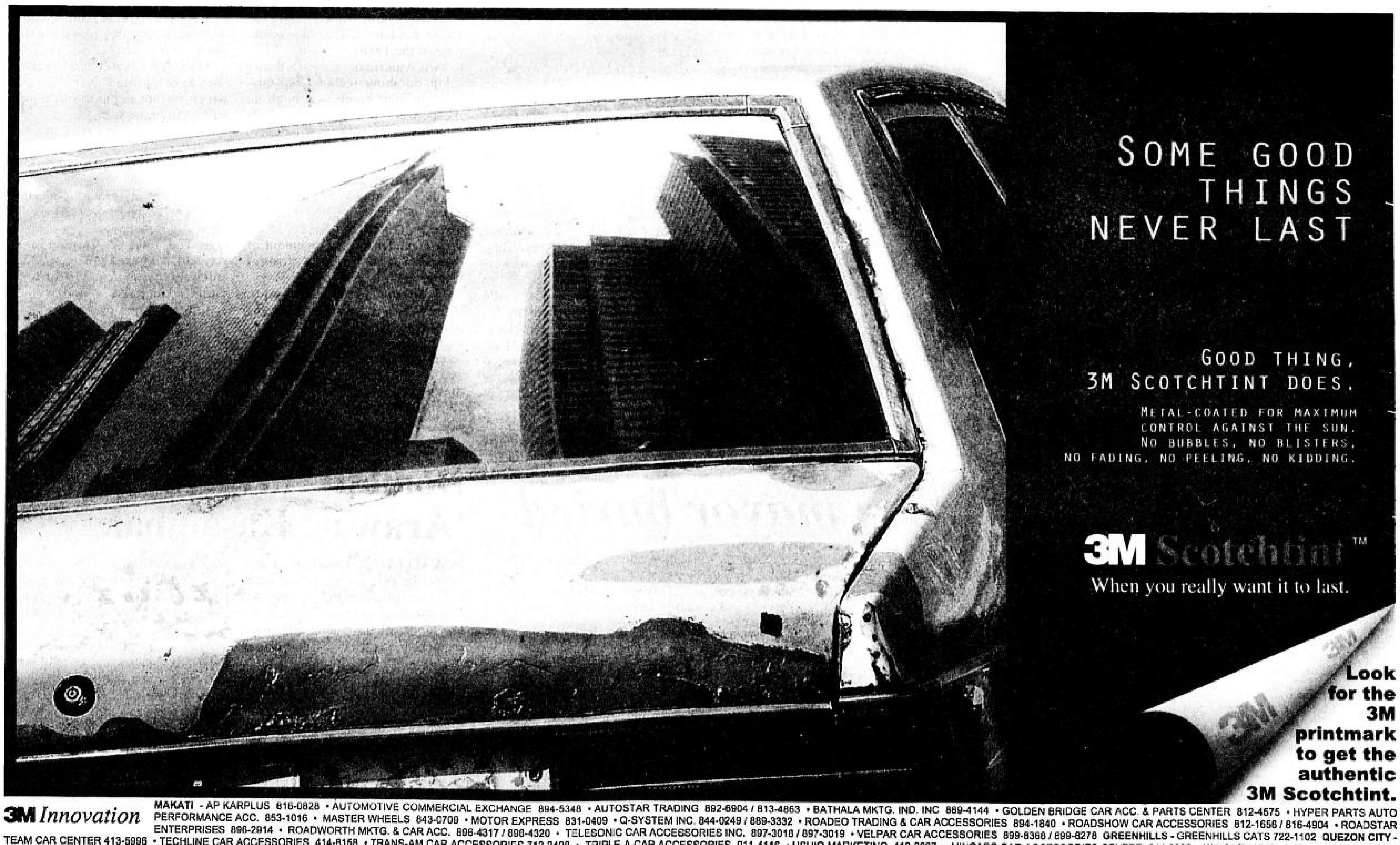
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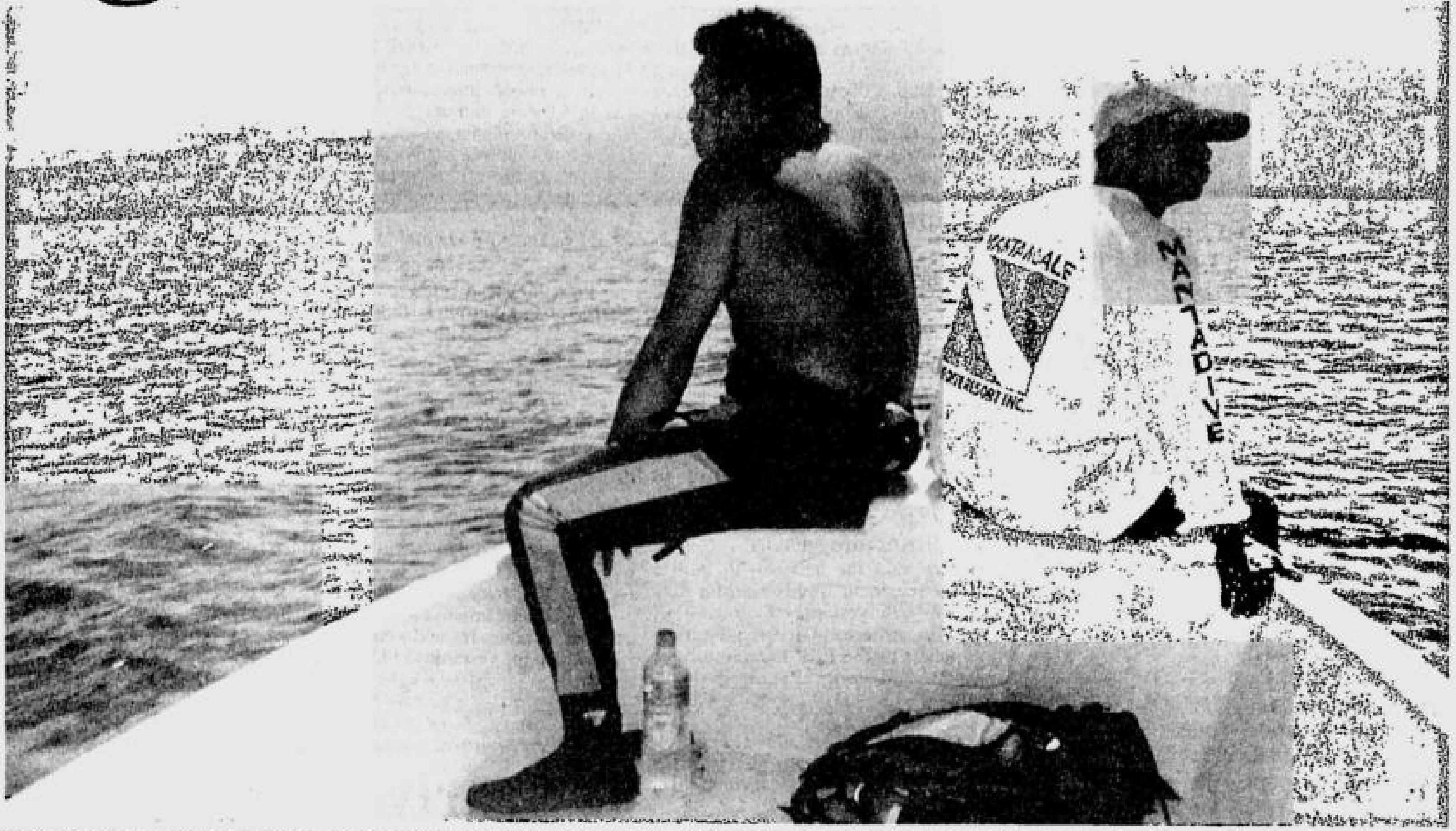
INQUIRER *Mindanao*
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor

Missing the gentle whale sharks

BY FROILAN GALLARDO
Camiguin Island



DIVER Dodong Uy and his companion search in vain for whale sharks off Camiguin Island. Indiscriminate fishing has been blamed for the few sightings of whale sharks in the area.

FROILAN GALLARDO

IN THIS corner of the Bohol Sea, environmentalists fear that indis criminate fishing has wiped out the whale sharks, the biggest fish in the world.

For two days, a team of environmentalists, divers and tourism officials aboard a 20-foot dive boat, searched for whale sharks around Camiguin Island in the Macajalar and Gingoog bays in Misamis Oriental.

The search found no trace of the gentle shark.

"Nothing! Maybe the years of indiscriminate fishing have taken its toll," said Dodong Uy, professional diver and member of the Mindanao Whale Watch Group.

With his wife Nana, Uy led the team in search for whale sharks on Tuesday and Wednesday. They instead found 15 dolphins and seven Pygmy whales skimming over the waves in Gingoog Bay.

Uy said that as much as 100 whale sharks could be sighted in these waters between February and May four years ago.

The fish is attracted by the rich planktons that abound in the seas around Camiguin during these months, he said.

Also four years ago, whales were common around the island. Sometimes, the big whales would "proudly parade" to everyone's delight, Uy said.

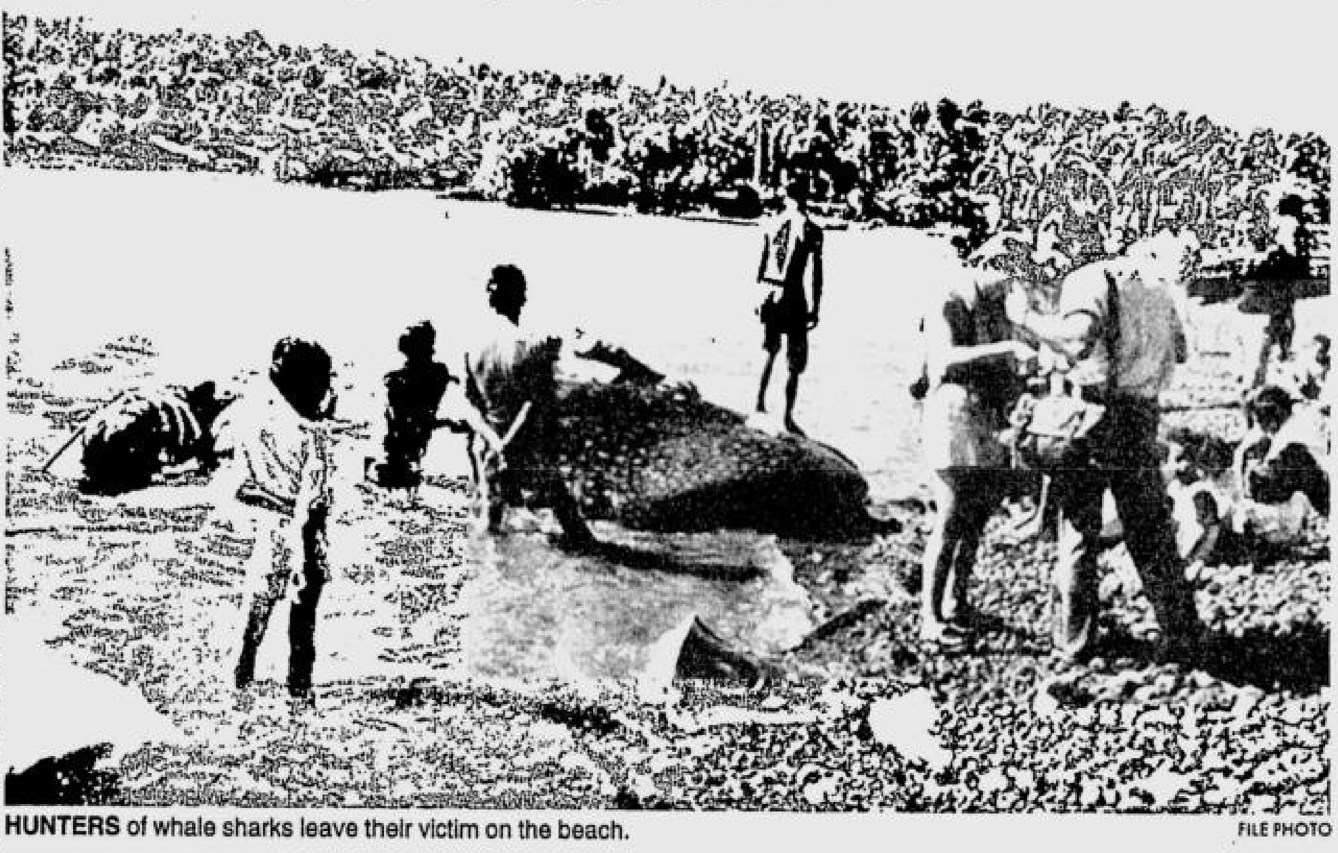
"But the local fishermen slaughtered them and sold them to buyers from Cebu and Manila," he said.

Whale sharks (*Rhincodon typhus*) are highly priced in Taiwan where they are sold as "Tofu-shark" at $15 per kilo.

The Department of Agriculture issued Fisheries Administrative Order 193 on March 25, 1998, banning the catching, selling, purchase, possession, transport and exportation of whale sharks and manta rays (*Manta birostris*).

These species, which are considered delicacies by coastal residents in Misamis Oriental, have been declared protected by the government.

Under the law, violators are fined P500 to P5,000, and imprisoned from six months to four years.



HUNTERS of whale sharks leave their victim on the beach.

FILE PHOTO

But in Talisayan, Misamis Oriental, local fishers, in what could be considered their "last hunting season," slaughtered 100 whale sharks before the ban took effect.

"Sightings of whale sharks have been few after that (slaughter). They (whale sharks) were decimated," Uy said.

Arlene Pantanosas, director of the Bureau Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Northern Mindanao, said fishermen in Misamis Oriental and Camiguin had been organized to stop the killing.

She said the program had already bore fruit, adding that the marine resources in the Gingoog Bay have increased in the past four years.

Pantanosas said their efforts have been coordinated with local government units in the province. "We have provided them engines and boats for their Bantay-Dagat operations," she said.

Pantanosas said at least four fish landing sites have been identified in Misamis Oriental and Camiguin where some fishers would bring the whale sharks. Activities at the landing sites have been monitored, she said.

She said some fishers have agreed to follow the ban and monitor any slaughter of the whale sharks and dolphins.

"That's why we were surprised with the report that the population of the whale shark has gone down. The fishermen are helping us," Pantanosas said.

She said the fishers have already identified eight species of dolphins and confirmed numerous sightings of whale sharks off Camiguin.

Most of the sightings were done in 40 to 100 fathoms, Pantanosas said.

But Uy said government agencies should make twice as much effort to save whatever is left of the gentle whale sharks and other endangered species around the island.

The killing continues, he said, and this time, local fishers are targeting the dolphins that abound in these waters.

Killing continues

On Wednesday, local fishers told the team that four dolphins were slaughtered Tuesday night and the meat sold at P25 per kilo in the coastal towns of Talisayan and Medina in Misamis Oriental.

The fishers added that the dolphin meat was sold directly to residents, avoiding the public market to prevent detection.

"I doubt if the local mayors would lift a finger, especially now that it is election time. These fishermen are voters and the mayors would not want to antagonize them," Uy said.

Dorothy Jean Pabayo, regional director of the Department of Tourism, said whale sharks and dolphins were big potentials for eco-tourism.

She said the fishers could be organized to bring tourists to see the whale sharks and dolphins, and learn to protect, instead of slaughter, the endangered species.

Some local government officials in Misamis Oriental and Camiguin do not appreciate the rich marine resources in their localities, Pabayo said.

"In the end, it is the changing of the values of the fishermen and officials that would eventually save the whale sharks and the dolphins here," he said.

In the meantime, the slaughter continues around Camiguin Island.

A tragic hero by himself

BY PATRICIO P. DIAZ

COMMENTARY

THE ARREST of Joseph Ejercito, alias Estrada, as shown on television, evoked sadness and irony. It was like seeing in a play the tragic hero struggling to avoid his doom, but his tragic faults make his fate irreversible.

The arrest was the crisis before the climax, which is the trial for the crime of economic plunder. Will he escape conviction? Can his plea of innocence and frame-up overcome a mountain of documentary and testimonial evidence?

Joseph Ejercito, alias Estrada, is a real tragic hero. He had virtues, but his tragic faults did him in. He is not a Julius Caesar, though. He's more of a Macbeth, although he did not murder a bosom friend. He is a tragic hero by himself.

Irony

His fall from the pinnacle, which was the presidency, to the lowest depth, which is jail, is the historic irony. It was like the Archangel Lucifer (Morning Star) falling from Heaven to Hell and becoming Satan.

Once the most powerful man of the land in whose hands lay the fate of convicts, he has become powerless even in bargaining for a house arrest. He once commuted life sentences and death penalties; now, he could not stop his own arrest.

Once, he signed laws surrounded by the highest officials of Congress and Malacañang, with cameras flashing. Now, he signed his commitment papers surrounded by his jailers, followed by a photo session for the mug file. Among his jailers were the generals he had promoted before his fall.

During the first six months of his presidency, he held office at Camp Crame as concurrent secretary of interior and local government. Now, he is back in Camp Crame as a detainee without bail, with no one saluting him.

Once, wherever he went, he was mobbed by well-dressed well-wishers, his friends and high government officials around him. As he departed from his home in San Juan for Camp Crame, only his lawyers accompanied him and his ragtag supporters saw him off.

Both sad and ironic!

Consoling

Behind the sadness and the irony is the consolation to see the solidarity of the Ejercito clan, his clan, around him. His son, Jinggoy, being a co-accused, was with him. But even if not an accused, he would have been with his father.

His wife Loi, whom many have pictured as a martyr, was with him at the well-guarded car to Crame and sat beside him during all those humiliating rites for a detainee. His other women could not come even had they wanted to.

What can be the political repercussion of the arrest of Estrada? It will test the truth about "*puwersa ng masa.*"

Is it real of just hot air?

Estrada and his allies have repeatedly invoked the 10 million Estrada voters to prove his legitimacy as still the Philippine president. If not a joke, this number can make all the 13 LDP-Puwersa ng Masa senatorial candidates win.

Should this happen, coupled with the LDP-PnM majority in the Lower House, President Macapagal-Arroyo, along with the entire Supreme Court, should resign to allow Estrada to return to Malacañang with all the cases against him dropped.

The May 14 election is the last forum for Estrada to vindicate his name and honor. Should the LDP-PnM lose, it will mean that the Filipino people are ratifying not only the installation of President Macapagal-Arroyo by "People Power" and its confirmation by Congress and the Supreme Court, but, are also approving his arrest.

ESTRADA: His arrest was sad and ironic.

FILE PHOTO

Election as a comic relief

DUGONG MINDANAW

Romel M. Oribe

We want to know what the Mindanaoan youngblood, middle-aged blood or high blood are thinking about what's happening in Mindanao and the rest of the country. -- Ed.

I DON'T know about you but for me, the best thing about election is the good laugh I get from it.

No, I'm not referring to handbills that drip with grammatical booboos. Or to posters of politicians whose head shots are thrice as menacing as the mug shots of criminals in cumbersome police files. Or to their no-brainer speeches and dim-witted platforms. Or to their "Aray"—and "Dama"—inspired political jingles.

I'm referring to the politicians' creative, if jocular, ways to advance their candidacies.

Take my friend who is running for councilor in our town of Tago (Surigao del Sur). In a sortie to one of the barangays, she kept her party-mates guessing as to the fidgeting contents of the seven sacks she had brought with her.

Upon reaching their destination, my friend, to the chagrin of her party-mates, let out over a hundred cats, all swathed in her campaign stickers. When they still didn't get it, she told them that with her cats, she didn't have to do a "house-to-house" campaign because the cats were sure to find homes in search for food and thus do the campaigning for her.

Another political masochist friend, who is running for the nth time, gives a new spin to the obligatory house-to-house campaign. His act goes like this:

He visits a certain place, knocks at a certain door, hand-grabs a certain elector and does a political pitch. A little later, he asks to use the comfort room. As the unwitting elector sees him off afterwards, my friend forms a faintly wicked smile. Now picture the elector's reaction when he discovers that his comfort room has been pasted full of my friend's stickers.

There's also this electoral mainstay in neighboring Tandag town, who is said to drill a hole if elections are conducted six feet below the ground. Always an independent candidate, he provides entertainment in what could otherwise be a ho-hum money and popularity contest. And what he lacks in monetary attraction, he makes up in outlandish imagination.

Championing the plight of the poor, he punctuates his campaign with high drama. One time, he rented a payloader, rode on its bucket, hoisted himself and delivered his political angst with characteristic bombast. The audience cheered lustily every time his inflection was matched by the upward, downward and sideward motions of the heavy equipment's metal extremity.

Another time, he rented a truck and transformed it into a mobile stage-cum-*bahay kubo*, complete with bamboo bed, earthen jars, caged birds and pythons.

Always a political one-man band, he is anti-anything. One time, he positioned himself in front of the church of a religious sect known for endorsing candidates and lambasted it to high heavens. Through a stand-up comedy and sing-and-dance act, he tried to demystify the widespread notion that endorsement from this religious vote bloc is the be-all and end-all of a politician's victory.

A clueless politician once told me: "I thought only politicians engage in double talk and duplicity. But how come I lost when everybody I was campaigning to said he'd vote for me?"

I shared this comment with my friend Dee and she said: "Didn't he know that voters participate in elections just for the fun(d) of it?"

So sad, but so true! Which makes me want to migrate to Pluto and sell *sago*.

Gloria defends Erap's transfer

By Donna S. Cueto and Christine Herrera

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo and other officials yesterday defended the government's decision to transfer jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada from Camp Crame to a specially built detention house in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, saying the new site was more secure, comfortable and suited to a former president.

The President said that her administration would do all it could to "ensure Mr. Estrada's security, health and comfort within the limits of the law."

"At the same time, I would like to stress that this government is fully committed to due process and the rule of law," she said.

Estrada, detained at Camp Crame since Wednesday on a charge of economic plunder punishable by death or life imprisonment, was taken yesterday to the nearby Veterans' Memorial Medical Center for a full medical checkup before the planned transfer to his new detention house at Fort Sto. Domingo.

Estrada will be fit to travel to Laguna on Monday after his discharge from the hospital, Philippine National Police Director General Leandro Mendoza said yesterday.

Mendoza said he decided to transfer Estrada due to the imminent danger to the former president and to national security.

He admitted that the danger came from the swelling crowd of Estrada supporters at the Edsa Shrine in Mandaluyong.

"There were insinuations that Estrada supporters would be marching to Camp Crame to rescue the deposed president," Mendoza said.

"We were worried the crowd might turn into a mob and that's the imminent danger we want to prevent," Mendoza said.

The PNP chief said he was confident that the protest action on Edsa would die down after Estrada's transfer to Laguna.

In a television interview, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao downplayed the fact that the Laguna detention center was luxurious by prison standards. *(See related story on Page A1.)*

"It's not the mansion view that you would expect," Tiglao said. He added that "it's a comfortable facility, which doesn't lessen at all the dignity of (the) former president," who has been accused of using bribe money and tax kickbacks to build mansions for the use of his mistresses.

Asked why Estrada would get special treatment while in detention, Mendoza told reporters: "We should consider that he is an ex-president and he should maintain his dignity."

"We wanted deposed President Estrada to feel at home," he said, adding that Estrada should feel "very much at home" in Sta. Rosa because his family's ancestral home is located in nearby Pagsanjan.

"The amenities are not exactly what the Estradas have in their own home but the place is comfortable enough for them to feel at home," Mendoza said.

"The administration is extending all kind of accommodations allowed by law for Estrada," he said.

Informing Erap

Mendoza said the decision to inform the former president of his transfer was made at 5:30 a.m. yesterday.

Mendoza ordered Director Samson Lantion, chief of the PNP Directorate for Community and Police Relations to inform the president of his impending transfer.

Lantion went to the Camp Crame cell where Estrada is detained and found him sleeping. He asked Jinggoy Estrada to wake his father, but the San Juan mayor opted to wait for their lawyers to inform the ex-president of the transfer.

In a two-page manifestation filed yesterday, Mendoza informed the Sandiganbayan of the decision to transfer the deposed president after the medical check-up yesterday.

Mendoza said he found the check-up necessary after he learned that the inmate was taking medication for hypertension.

In a phone interview, Sandi-ganbayan Sheriff Urieta said that he was informed of the plan around 4 a.m. yesterday and that he rushed to Camp Crame to witness the event.

Among those he saw in the camp were Estrada lawyers Rene Saguisag, former Chief Justice Andres Narvasa, Cleofe Verzola and Jose Flaminiano.

Decoy

Estrada was airlifted from Camp Crame to the hospital around 10:30 am yesterday. His son Jinggoy was airlifted in another PNP helicopter.

But the police arranged a convoy of 17 vehicles as a decoy. Media men who went along were made to believe they were going to Sta. Rosa and later complained that they had been tricked.

Dr. Salvador Flores, medical director of the VMMC, issued a medical bulletin stating that Estrada would have to undergo several tests and would have to be confined for 48 to 72 hours.

Today, Estrada is scheduled for a series of tests, including urinalysis, blood count, a liver profile, a chest x-ray and a cholesterol test.

At 4 p.m. yesterday, Flores reported to Mendoza that Estrada's blood pressure was in the normal range. ***With reports from Martin Marfil, Dave Veridiano, Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Lacson to 'Edsa III': Victory is nearly ours

(From page A1)

"*Si Gloria natataranta na, kaya di lang siya labandera. Si Gloria tarantada na,*" the senator announced.

Earlier Friday night, Santiago told the crowd that some military officials had defected from the Macapagal administration.

She did not name the supposed defectors, but mentioned the Young Officers Union (YOU), a group of activist junior military officers.

Sen. Gregorio Honasan also told the crowd that the military and the police were on the loyalists' side.

Santiago returned to the stage after a few minutes to announce that former President Fidel Ramos and former National Security Adviser Jose Almonte had fled the country for fear of a backlash from Estrada supporters.

She said Ramos, whom she had accused of cheating her of victory in the 1992 presidential election, and Almonte were "cowards."

While Santiago made it appear that Ramos and Almonte left on that very day, a check by the INQUIRER showed that the former president flew to the United States in the morning of April 19, even before Estrada's loyalists started massing at the Edsa Shrine.

Ramos went abroad for a series of speaking engagements in the United States and Europe, which were scheduled as early as last year. He is due back next week.

Almonte, on the other hand, left the country on April 26, according to departure records at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. He has yet to return.

Edgardo Angara, Estrada's executive secretary, also shot down the call that the loyalists march on Camp Crame and free Estrada, saying this was "not right."

But he said the Macapagal administration should not belittle the crowd at Edsa.

"These are decent and honorable people who are expressing a sentiment and conveying a strong message. The poor feel and think as deeply as anybody in society," Angara said.

As for his fellow opposition candidates' call to reinstall Estrada as president, he said: "I reserve my position on that."

Jinggoy

San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada, the ex-president's eldest son by the former first lady, was indignant as he dismissed allegations that the ongoing loyalist rallies lacked the "quality" of People Power I and II.

Jinggoy, who is detained along with his father, told reporters yesterday in a phone interview that the administration's senatorial candidates had no right to say that the loyalist rallies were simply a numbers game that did not have the success factors of the two earlier uprising.

"What do they want to call the millions of people at Edsa? Garbage?" Jinggoy said in Filipino, adding that this supposed discrimination was typical of the "elitists" of People Power II.

He said the Macapagal administration and its allies were merely threatened by the swelling of the crowd at the rally site.

"They are afraid because the true force of the masses has come, and they might be removed from power," he said in Filipino.

The loyalists, who earlier vandalized the statue of Our Lady of Peace and replaced the Vatican flag with a pro-Estrada banner, has become a security and sanitation nightmare for personnel of the Catholic Church.

The PnM senatorial slate had projected a crowd of at least 1.5 million in the next two days, but police estimated that only around 3,000 stayed at the shrine every afternoon. The rest came in the evening, along with the politicians and most show biz personalities.

Jinggoy said he was leaving his and his father's fate up to "God and the people at Edsa." He said they had been praying a lot inside their cells.

At the Edsa Shrine, vendors hawked all sorts of merchandise.

Shirts bearing the messages "Justice for Erap" and "Erap Pa Rin" were selling for P100 each; orange wristbands, an Estrada trademark, P15; and white wristbands and ribbons, P10.

Iglesia ni Cristo

A Catholic priest from a Metro Manila parish phoned the INQUIRER yesterday claiming that he and a group of other priests had separately confirmed from members of the INC that they had been instructed by their leaders to join the loyalist rallies at Edsa.

The priest asked that his first name not be revealed, and that he be identified only as Father Pascual.

But INC spokesperson Bienvenido Santiago said there was no such circular from the church hierarchy.

It is through INC circulars read during worship services or in "meetings" that directives from the INC administration are brought to the attention of members, he said.

INC members are known to vote as a bloc, and follow their leaders' choice of candidates.

Santiago said, however, that INC members who wanted to go to Edsa were not being prevented from doing so.

INC ministers also made this clarification to its members in worship services yesterday.

Pascual said a staff member in their parish office had related how his wife, an INC member, was told by their "local" pastor by phone Wednesday night—hours after Estrada's arrest—to go to Edsa.

"The exact words given were: *Ang bilin ng sentral eh makisama tayo sa Edsa. Kung makakapunta kayo ngayong gabi, pumunta ngayon. Kung hindi, dapat nandoon kayo araw-araw* (Central's instruction is that we go to Edsa. If you can go tonight, go. If not, you should be there every day)," Pascual said.

He said some of his priest friends went to Edsa, apparently incognito, to "investigate," and found that most of those assembled there were INC members who had received similar instructions.

But Santiago denied that many of those at Edsa were INC members.

"Those who say that should go there and find out for themselves," she said. "How will they know that those at the Edsa rallies are mostly INC members? Did they conduct a survey? Did they ask all of those at the rally?"

Mindanao

In Davao City, Estrada supporters are bent on protesting the disgraced leader's arrest.

As of noon yesterday, only about 20 of them remained at the Rizal Park. But they refused to leave, saying they were still awaiting a contingent from Southern and Central Mindanao. At 5 p.m., their number swelled to 200. ***With reports from Irene Andrea C. Perez, Blanche S. Rivera, Donna S. Cueto in Manila; Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Jowel F. Canuday, Allan A. Nawal, Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Sin urges flock: Wear blue today

(From page A1)

the Edsa Shrine and have called on everyone to wear blue today and join the acts of reparation for the shrine's desecration.

A call by Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin for everyone who is against such alleged acts of desecration to wear blue, the color of peace, the whole day today has been circulating in text messages all over the country.

"So many of us are on the brink of tears," Sin said. "We are grieving for the Edsa Shrine, church of the people, temple of God, monument to peace."

In a two-page "Message of Sorrow and Protest," Sin said the wearing of blue, especially during Sunday Mass, will be a "silent protest and an act of reparation for this sin against God's personality."

Yesterday, the influential Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines decried as "immoral" the ongoing camp-out of Estrada followers at the Edsa Shrine and accused "rich and powerful" allies of the imprisoned former president of "exploiting the poor" for their own interests.

CBCP president and Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, in a letter to the CBCP yesterday, called the Edsa rally an "effectively planned and amply funded sinister destabilization scheme" staged by Estrada's supporters.

Light blue is the color of the Virgin Mary, but any shade of blue would be sufficient to show a sign of silent protest over the desecration of the monument of peace, said a Church information officer.

Blue-clad parishioners showed up last night for the Mass and vigil at the Mt. Carmel Church in New Manila.

Militants too

Militant groups such as the left-leaning Bayan and its affiliates have pledged to support the Blue Sunday movement and organize other more vocal actions against what they said was the "disinformation" being spread by Estrada allies to sustain the enthusiasm of the people now gathered at Edsa.

Bayan and Kompil sponsored a Mass at Mendiola last night, with the President's son, Mike Arroyo, and anti-Estrada leaders Fr. Robert Reyes and Linggoy Alcuaz, in attendance.

Sin said pro-Estrada supporters at the Edsa Shrine have "profaned a house of prayer."

Sin said there will be regular rosaries for reparation and holy hours of penance in all Catholic churches and chapels from April 30 to May 13, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima.

"I am sad for what they have done to the Edsa Shrine," Sin said. "We will not stop until the dignity of the shrine is restored and our people can once again live in peace according to the will of the Lord of Peace."

In his letter, Quevedo said those behind the Edsa protest rally may actually be working for the cancellation of the May 14 elections since their calls to restore Estrada to the presidency have no "realistic possibility" of coming true.

'No moral basis'

"The destabilization attempt has no moral basis," Quevedo said.

"First, it is immoral to force the return of the former President to an office that he has been charged of morally abusing most gravely," he explained.

Secondly, it was immoral to prevent the law from being fully applied in pursuing the criminal charges filed against Estrada, Quevedo said.

Thirdly, the archbishop said it was immoral "for rich and powerful people to exploit the sympathies and loyalties of the poor by instigating and supporting them to destabilize the political situation."

He said the supporters of the disgraced Estrada have conveniently ignored the moral truth for their own personal interests.

"This tragic dismissal of the moral truth is at the root of the destabilization process. It is exploiting many poor people."

Program of prayer

Quevedo requested the bishops to organize in their respective dioceses a "program of prayer and sacrifice to defend truth and promote peace" in the country.

He urged them to hold Masses, recitation of the rosary, devotional prayers and community action as part of such programs.

Sin's call was accompanied by a memorandum issued by Msgr. Jose Clemente Ignacio, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Manila, asking parish priests, heads of schools, parish organizations and Catholic communities to announce to their parishioners to wear blue today.

Ignacio also encouraged the distribution of blue armbands in parishes today, and asked all parish priests to read Sin's statement in yesterday's evening Masses and all Sunday Masses today.

"We cannot take such matters lightly when the temple of God is already desecrated," Ignacio said.

Ignacio also called on the faithful to pray the "Act of Reparation for the Profanation of the Edsa Shrine" after communion. The prayer, attached to Sin's message, asked for forgiveness for the "vandalism, use of foul language, obscene songs, immodest acts and statements that insult our church leaders and attack our Catholic beliefs."

"Forgive us Lord for what we have done to your temple and what we have done to the image of your Holy Mother," the prayers said.

Private property

Sin reminded the pro-Estrada ralliers that the Edsa Shrine was not public property as it stands on titled land that belongs to the Catholic Church.

"It is not like Rizal Park or Mendiola," Sin said. "It is a Catholic Church standing on private property."

Sin noted that the ralliers took down the Church flag and raised a banner expressing support for Estrada in its place. He said they also danced over the marker of the holy ground and dumped trash on it.

The cardinal said he was also saddened that Estrada partisans had plastered pictures of Estrada on the hem of the dress of the bronze statue of the Virgin Mary atop the shrine.

"They have positioned the loudspeakers facing the doors of the church making it next to impossible to have a decent liturgy inside the church," Sin lamented.

But more than the damage done to the physical structure of the shrine, the Catholic Church was "more concerned about the non-Catholic values that the ralliers are getting from the rally stage," the Cardinal said.

"We can repair the damage to the building (but) what about the damage to the minds and consciences of those who are attending the rallies?" Sin said, noting that the protesters were using foul language and singing obscene songs within church grounds.

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SCHEDULE OF SHORT COURSE OFFERINGS
Summer 2001

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Database Systems	3 days	May 05 - 06, 12
Software Engineering	3 days	May 15 - 17
Webpages for e-Commerce: Design and Development (HTML, ASP)	3 days	May 15 - 17
Java Programming	5 days	May 21 - 25
Visual Basic 6.0 Programming	5 days	May 21 - 25
Introduction to Computing	5 days	May 28 - June 01
Java Programming	5 days	May 28 - June 01
SQL Server 2000 Programming	5 days	June 04 - 08
C++ Programming	5 days	June 04 - 08
C Programming	5 days	June 04 - 08

Morning sessions start at 8:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 p.m. while afternoon sessions start at 1:00 p.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. For reservations, registration and inquiries, please call Ms. Mila Ramos at (632) 434-3639 or (632) 920-5301 local 5200.

Text wars, Erap jokes are back

(From page A1)

supporters massed at historic Edsa Shrine to protest his incarceration, text messages have been flying thick and fast, calling, cajoling, insulting, and otherwise finding humor in a tense situation, as only Filipinos can.

"Yehey! I love this, Erap jokes are back," read one message, obviously written after a new series of jokes began making the rounds following the arrest of Estrada and his son, Jinggoy, last Wednesday on charges they plundered tobacco taxes from the province of Ilocos Sur.

Even Army generals were sending text jokes to reporters.

One of the first jokes on Wednesday read: "*Text mo naman ako! Nakakabato dito sa kulungan ko! Sender: Erap Estrada +639198131313* (Text me please. It's boring in my cell)." The phone number is a play on the former president's known fear of the number 13.

The message was followed by another, this one purportedly coming from Jinggoy. It said, "*c dadi lang ang tni-txt mo ah! Ako din! Sender: Jinggoy +63917131313* (You're only texting daddy. How about me)."

Another message, this one with fangs, read: "FOR CULTURAL & AESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS, JINGGOY WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE MANILA ZOO."

Other jokes made light of efforts by Estrada's lawyers to return him to his Greenhills residence under house arrest: "Can you recommend a good lawyr? I need a new lawyr, my lawyrs are so dumb, they even wanted my house arrested—Erap."

The INQUIRER forwarded this message to an Army general who suggested, "How about Atty. Manhik Manaog?" referring to the corrupt congressman-lawyer played by comedian Leo Martinez on TV.

Then there are the green jokes like, "GMA says shel rlese erap f erap has sex w miriam. Erap wans 2 b executed now."

Other messages poked fun at the pro-Estrada ralliers gathered at Edsa: "*Punta tayo ng Edsa at makibaka. Please wear shorts, sando and tsinelas, bring balisong, tubo, ice pick and bato. Wag ka magdadala ng pera. Kasi me pera na doon* (Let's go to Edsa and protest. Please wear shorts, undershirt and slippers, bring a fan knife, iron pipe, ice pick and rocks. Don't bring money. There will be money there)."

"*Tinatawagan lahat ng dugyot at mangmang, mga bungal at walang salawal, patunayan nating wala tayong utak—pumunta sa Edsa, please pass* (Calling all the unwashed and ignorant, the toothless and unclothed, let's prove we have no brains—go to Edsa)."

But the masses gathered at Edsa, whose poverty was obvious compared to the crowd that made up Edsa II that toppled Estrada, gave almost as good as they got. Who said they could not afford cell phones?

The pro-Erap groups also turned to the "high-tech weapon" that was used effectively during Edsa II to pull off a peaceful revolt.

"ABS CBN HVE TO SUPPORT GMA COZ D LOPEZs R WAITING APPROVAL OF OMNIBUS POWER BILL W/C WILL RAKE DEM BILLIONS N PROFIT AT DA CONSUMERS EXPENSE. PLS PASS" read one pro-Erap message.

While the public may be enjoying all the texting, military intelligence has been busy monitoring text messages and e-mail.

A source said military intelligence has been able to learn a few things based on information they received through cyberspace.

The source, who requested anonymity, said a plot by opposition politicians to use the Estrada supporters at Edsa to attack nearby Camp Crame at dawn Friday was thwarted when the military learned of the plan through text messages and e-mail.

Estrada was moved out of Camp Crame later that morning and taken to the Veterans Memorial Hospital for a medical exam prior to his transfer to a new cell at Fort Sto. Domingo in Laguna.

It was not known if the intercepted text messages were directly responsible for his transfer.

Meanwhile the jokes keep coming.

"Good news! *Pwede na mag-shopping, dala marami cash, mag-drive mag-isa kahit madilim lugar, have no fear! holdupper, carnapper, etc. ay busy sa Edsa* (You can now shop, carry lots of cash, drive alone even in dark areas. holduppers, etc., are busy at Edsa)."

"*Kung wala kang pera dahil wala pa ang sweldo, punta ka ng Edsa. P300 per day, P500 kung may placard, P700 kung may dala kang bato, P900 kung war freak ka* (If you have no money because you have not received your salary, go to Edsa. P500 if you have a placard, P700 if you bring a rock, P900 if you are a war freak)." ***With reports from Dave Veridiano and Joselle Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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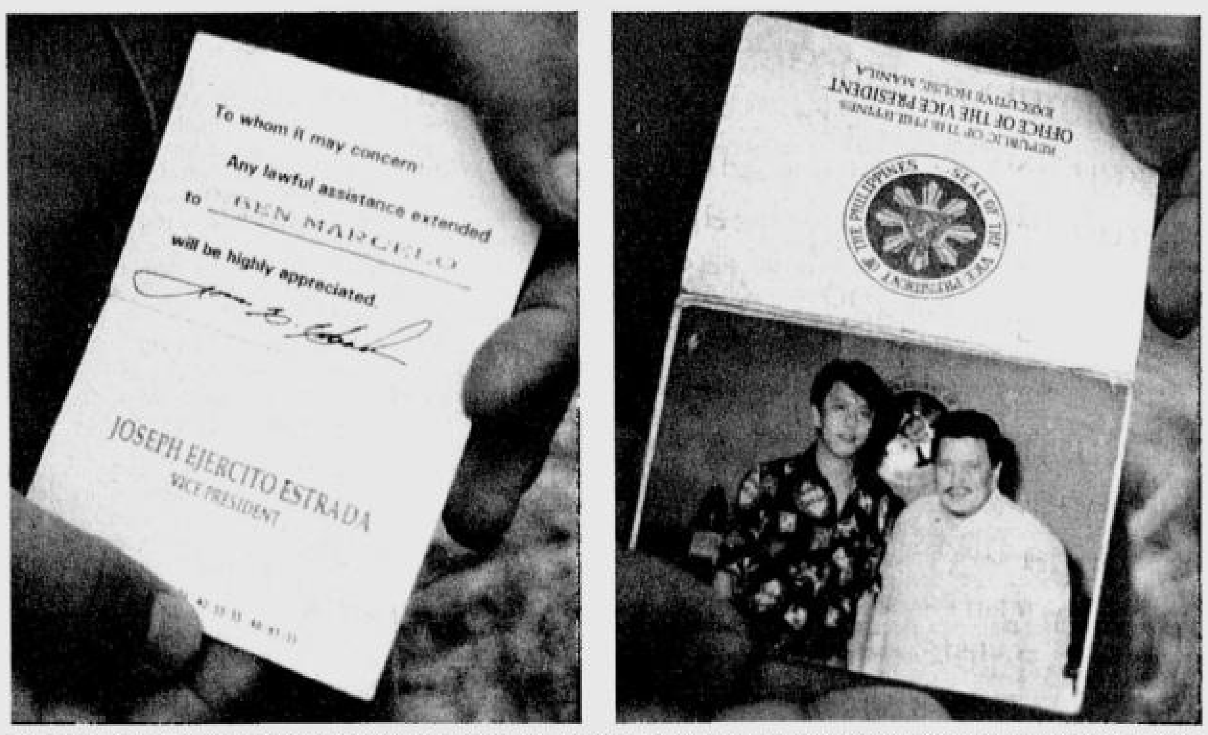

To whom it may concern
Any lawful assistance extended to BEN MARCELO will be highly appreciated.
JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA
VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
SEAL OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

BUSINESS card of arrested suspect, Ben Marcelo, bears a photo, signature and the vice presidential seal of the deposed President. VAL HANDUMON

Estrada pal nabbed in ₱2-B drug bust

By Christine Herrera
and Dave M. Veridiano

POLICE said they would probe the probable link between a bigtime drug lord and imprisoned former President Joseph Estrada after a raid on a laboratory in Lipa City yesterday that yielded 1,000 kgs of high-grade shabu worth P2 billion.

Interior Secretary Joey Lina, who inspected the shabu laboratory in Barangay Sto. Niño with PNP chief Leandro Mendoza yesterday, said it was the biggest drug haul in the country this year.

Lina identified one of the nine people arrested during the raid as a drug lord named Benjamin Marcelo, allegedly a close ally of Estrada.

Marcelo, a Chinese-Filipino, is believed to be a member of the Binondo drug cartel that has alleged links with the dreaded Hong Kong Triad criminal groups.

Mendoza said what the raiders found was the biggest shabu laboratory in the country, with the capacity to produce 1,000 kgs of high-grade shabu, also known as methamphetamine hydrochoride, each month.

It was Lipa City Mayor Vilma Santos who tipped the police off about the laboratory, which is said to have started operations seven months ago. It was processing ephedrine imported from China.

Of the nine people arrested, only Marcelo was identified as the eight other Chinese nationals could not speak English. Without an interpreter, the police could not elicit any information from them.

A joint team of agents from the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group and the Southern Luzon Police Regional Office swooped down on the laboratory at dawn yesterday and caught the nine suspects diluting chemicals and making shabu.

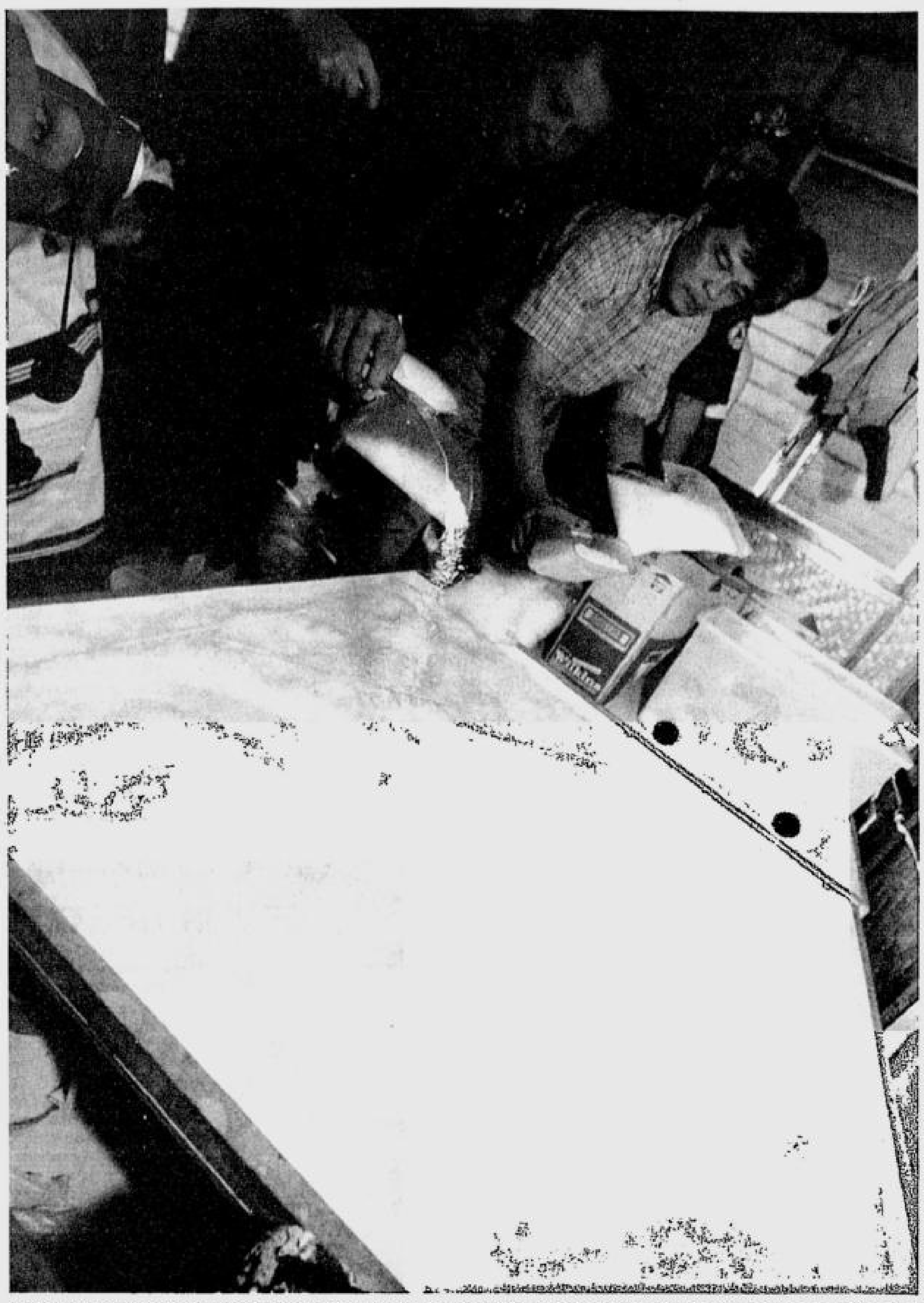
Several high-tech, drug-processing paraphernalia were confiscated from the laboratory, Lina said.

Supt. Benjamin Bellarmino, chief of the special operations unit in Batangas, said the police raiders also found a laptop hooked up to a main computer in China.

The police will try to decode the data in the computer which were all in Chinese characters.

Lina said the police investigators found a business card of Estrada when he was still vice president, bearing a picture of Marcelo and himself. A note in the card signed by Estrada, then the chair of the defunct Presidential Anti-Crime Commission, asked that assistance be extended to Marcelo.

The 300-meter laboratory is built on a six-hectare farm lying at the foot of a mountain at the boundary of San Pablo City and Tiaong, Quezon. The property was secured by a wire fence. There was also a piggery in the premises, possibly intended to camouflage the smell of shabu.



SOME 1,000 kilos of high-grade shabu are found in a safehouse in Barangay Sto. Nino in Lipa, Batangas. PNP chief Leandro Mendoza and Interior Secretary Joey Lina show off the largest haul so far this year. VAL HANDUMON

Miriam linked to civilian-military plot

(From page A1)

The plotters are still discussing other possible bets.

Co-plotters include opposition leaders identified with former coup attempts, the highly placed source said. An official of the Iglesia ni Cristo is allegedly trying to persuade military generals to defect to the Estrada camp, he added.

For the first time since Estrada supporters began converging on Edsa five days ago, President Macapagal-Arroyo tried to dispel speculations about a military junta by going on national television yesterday to declare that the entire military and police establishments were "squarely behind" her government.

INQUIRER sources have been speculating that the standoff between the pro- and anti-Estrada forces provides the military with an opening to intervene invoking its mandate to protect the country and the people.

Ms Macapagal met Friday night with key division commanders of the military to discuss the pro-Estrada rally and secure their support for the administration.

Among those who attended were Maj. Gen Librado Ladia of the Marines, Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces head Victor Corpus, Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia of the Northern Luzon Command, Maj. Gen. Narciso Abaya of the Southern Luzon Command, Brig. Gen. Felipe Gaerlan of the Western Command, and Maj. Gen. Julius Javier of the Visayas Command.

After the group left, according to the intelligence source, El Shaddai leader Mike Velarde allegedly called up the President to seek her help in the plunder case against him. He allegedly warned that the El Shaddai flock would join the Edsa III forces if she would not help him.

"I am warning those who may be thinking of taking advantage of the situation to further their selfish political agenda," Ms Macapagal said in her statement.

"The Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police are squarely behind this administration and are prepared to meet any challenge to the Constitution," she said.

Reyes assured the public that the establishment of a military junta in the country was not possible.

"That junta cannot exist. The AFP, PNP and all agencies of government are firmly behind the government of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and we will resist and thwart any attempt to threaten or destabilize it," he said.

"We'd like to assure our people that this government is firmly in control of the situation," Reyes said during a news conference in Malacañang.

Reyes had made a similar declaration during the last few days of the Estrada administration. At the time, he had assured full military backing for then President Estrada despite the snowballing anti-Estrada protests. Later, senior military and police leaders backed the protests that ousted Estrada.

Defections

Yesterday, Reyes said they were verifying reports about alleged defections in the military.

"Reports are reports. There are good reports and there are bad reports and all reports are subject to verification. We don't believe all reports but we try to verify all of them," he said.

"Give us the names (of the supposed defectors) and within the hour we will check if this is true," he added.

He said however that he found no need to do a loyalty check on the military when "you are convinced about the righteousness of your cause."

"Our soldiers, policemen and officers are professional soldiers and they will follow righteous causes—causes for and in behalf of the people. We are doing the right thing so there is nothing to worry about," Reyes assured.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva reacted to rumors that Estrada supporters offered cash to persuade senior officers to back the former leader.

"I can assure you that the Armed Forces of the Philippines stands as united as ever, specially the combat troops," he said. "They are in their positions and they are alert."

The President held an emergency meeting with military and police officials as well as with Cabinet members late Friday night. The Cabinet had another meeting yesterday morning.

Filipino culture

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez also junked the possibility of a military junta because this was "against the culture of the Filipino people."

"This is not going to be accepted or tolerated by the Filipino people," he said.

Golez noted that the military always acts based on "righteousness" or "moral justification."

"If ever the members of the AFP would take action, there must be moral justification," he said.

But he admitted, "Every now and then, there are wayward renegade officers and men who will take action for other considerations other than moral justification."

Interior Secretary Joey Lina said "no right-thinking official of the AFP or the PNP would exchange good governance with bad governance."

"Right now, there is no just cause to make AFP and PNP officials switch from the present administration back to the previous administration which had been characterized by many (graft) cases," Lina said.

Despite assurances of support from the military and police establishments, officials are not taking any chances.

Estrada officers monitored

A source told the INQUIRER that all the Camp Crame quarters of police officers identified with Estrada are being monitored to make sure that no "secret meetings" are being held.

Camp Crame base policemen were given strict instructions to make sure that no police units, particularly those from the provinces, who have no orders to come to the camp are being sneaked in.

In her statement, Ms Macapagal said those plotting against the government should think twice because the police and military are behind her. She called on the people not to allow themselves to be used by these plotters.

"Let us not fall victim to a sinister plot of a few misguided elements who dream of taking advantage of this situation to further their ambitions at the expense of the rule of law and our people's welfare," she said.

As President of the country, she said, she would have to enforce the law equally.

"*Mayroon tayong batas na sinusunod. Bilang Presidente, mayroon akong katungkulan na ipatupad ang batas ng pantay-pantay, ng walang kinikilingan, ng walang sinisino. Mahirap o mayaman, may pinag-aralan o wala* (We have laws to obey. As President, I have a duty to enforce the law equally, without fear or favor. Rich or poor, educated or not). This we owe to the Filipino," Ms Macapagal said.

She added that there had been "no interruption at all in our running of this government and in doing our job of restoring business confidence and good governance."

Maximum tolerance

She said the government would respect the rights of the pro-Estrada protesters and that the policy of maximum tolerance would be followed.

But Lina said that there could be "hard decisions" that would have to be made later as far as the protesters are concerned.

"There is a continuing assessment that is being made, and at the appropriate time we are going to make some hard decisions," he said.

"I don't want to speculate. Maybe everything will be moot and academic in the next (few days). I don't know what will happen," he said when asked to elaborate on his statement about making "hard decisions." ***With reports from Dave Veridiano and Inquirer wires***

It's not 'Boracay,' but...

(From page A1)

furnished kitchen and dining area, with a table for six, a two-door refrigerator stocked with bottles of mineral water, a four-burner gas range and other appliances like a rice cooker, an airpot, an oven toaster and a kettle.

The master bedroom has an outer door with steel bars and a large padlock and an inner wooden door. Gracing the room are a queen-sized bed, a study table, a closet, another TV set, a VCD player and a two-horsepower air-conditioner.

Another air-conditioned room has been designated as a private clinic for the 64-year-old prisoner.

Guards said the cell's solitary detainee would use the clinic for treatment in case of illness and for regular checkups.

If Estrada moves here, a five-person team of doctors and nurses will attend to him on a daily basis, and an ambulance will be on standby round the clock.

Beside the clinic is a plain bathroom with standard white tiles.

The unit has its own water tank and two bathrooms. The beds had fresh sheets, and the dining area had new sets of cutlery and plates.

There is also a paging system speaker mounted near the ceiling of the living room, which is meant to make it easier for the guards to communicate with Estrada.

There is a helipad nearby.

Far cry from Crame

Yesterday afternoon, the INQUIRER and media outfits were permitted to have a look inside the detention center constructed to detain Estrada, who is facing plunder charges before the Sandiganbayan.

The journalists agreed that the detention center is a far cry from the former president's 3 by 5 square-meter cell at the headquarters of the former Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force in Camp Crame.

"Everything he will need will be provided for," Chief Insp. Cesar Teofisto, an officer of the Special Action Force (SAF), told reporters.

As in other jails, Estrada's guards would impose the usual visiting hours of 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. on weekdays. On Sunday, designated as "family day," his family members would be allowed to visit him the whole day.

Four to six family members would be allowed to visit him at any one time along with three or four friends. Estrada's lawyers would have unlimited access to the former leader.

His family would also be allowed to bring him food.

Security

The PNP has petitioned the Sandiganbayan to transfer Estrada to Fort Sto. Domingo, around 18 km south of Manila, due to the "imminent danger" to his life.

The bungalow was built a few days after the Supreme Court rejected with finality the appeal of Estrada for immunity from suit.

If Estrada were transferred to the camp, the elite PNP Special Action Force would provide round-the-clock security.

"It's our job to secure him. He will be safe here," Teofisto said.

When the INQUIRER went to see the jail, around 50 heavily armed SAF men were in view.

A contingent of women members of the SAF has recently been deployed at the camp. Sources within the camp's hierarchy said that their job would be to serve on the frontline to control crowds in case of pro-Estrada rallies.

Security has been tightened in and around the camp. Newly built guard towers are manned by heavily armed SAF troopers, two-man teams patrol on foot, and a curfew has been imposed on residents living just outside the camp's gates.

Task Force Calabarzon, a group made up of policemen from the different provinces in the area, has been beefed up.

Local legend

There's a mixture of history and the supernatural in the camp, according to residents of Sta. Rosa.

Local legend has it that the old church inside the camp, a training school for the Special Action Force, was where the Gomburza martyrs were garroted just before the start of the Philippine Revolution of 1898.

"That was where they were killed and that is why the old church is a source of pride among us," said Aling Yolanda (not her real name), a longtime resident.

Even though history books say that the three priests where executed not in Fort Sto. Domingo but in Bagumbayan Field, many of the local folk do not let the facts confuse them, and they cling to their version of events.

Another longtime resident, lawyer Alejandro Martin, agrees with the history books, though he added that another local belief was that the three priests were brought there before they were killed in Bagumbayan.

Martin also said that it was also their belief that national hero Dr. Jose Rizal had "visited" the place from time to time.

Through the years, Martin and a few local researchers and historians have tried to find an important place for Fort Sto. Domingo in Philippine history. Unfortunately, he said, they could not find any records to prove the locals' stories.

"Nonetheless, we believe that the fort has historical significance. That is why we want the government to preserve the place and declare it a national historical shrine," Martin told the INQUIRER.

Supernatural neighbors

According to the residents, the compound is populated with all sorts of supernatural beings. Through the years, the residents have compiled a virtual oral catalogue of supposed sightings.

"White ladies, *dwendes, capres*—all of those are there inside the compound. It looks like Erap will have a lot of supernatural neighbors if he is detained here," said one resident.

Another resident joked that "Erap might fall in love with the white ladies there because they are all fair and beautiful."

The children of the community also claimed seeing *dwendes* (dwarves) who come out just after dusk. The trees inside the camp also house *capres*, the residents said. Sometimes, they added, the ghosts of dead soldiers would also make their presence felt.

"It's an old fort and there are a lot of soldiers there who have passed on. Naturally, their spirits are still on earth trying to fulfill some unknown mission," one old timer said.

Treasure and tunnels

Another resident recounted old tales of hidden treasure in and near the camp.

"When the construction crew came into the camp to construct Erap's prison, we thought at first that they were digging for treasure. We had heard tales of a large treasure trove buried inside the camp," the resident said.

Another resident said there was a network of tunnels beneath the banks of a river next to the camp.

He said he entered one of the tunnels when he was a child.

"From the river, we made our way down the tunnel, the height of which was large enough for a child to stand up in. As we made our way down, we came upon a large chamber and around three or four smaller tunnels. We decided on one tunnel and crawled in. That last tunnel was so small and tight we could hardly breathe. But we reached the end, which was a vacant lot somewhere in Silang, Cavite."

They didn't find any treasure.

Eto na naman...

Sino ang ₱uwersa sa palabas na ₱eople ₱ower 3 KUNO ?

Sa simula pa lang, mali na agad ang iskrip. Kusa daw nag-umpisa ang pro-Erap rally. At hindi daw sila bayaran! Nilabag daw ang karapatan ni Erap kaya sila nagpo-protesta!

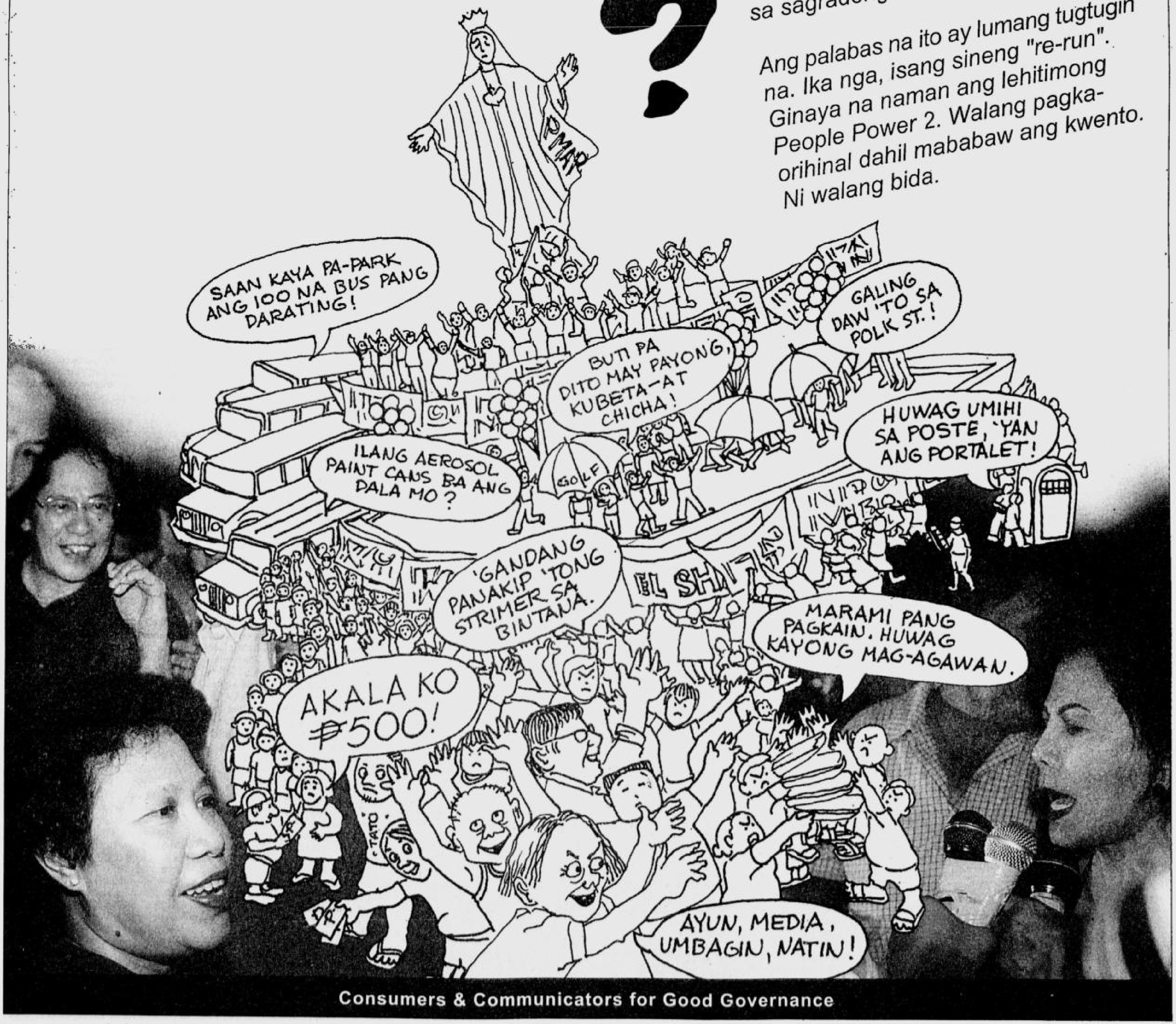
Kung hindi ka mag-iisip, maaaring magoyo ka. Kaya lang, nand'yan ang mga bus na panghakot, may nakakita nang ina-abutan ng datung. May portalets, pagkain na naka-styropor at mga makukulay na golf umbrellas para hindi masunog ng araw. Sino ang gumagastos at umaayos sa likod nang rally?

Pasok ang mga politikong tumatakbo sa eleksiyon. Sina Enrile, Honasan, Santiago, Mercado(!), Angara, Puno, Loi at ang angkan. Humihingi ng boto sa masa.

Nandoon din ang mga kampon ni Asistio, Binay at Bongbong Marcos. Para bang kinakabahan na sila naman ang ma-aresto tulad nang kanilang idolo!

Nandoon ang El Shaddai at Iglesia ni Cristo! Walang magawa sa pagbaboy sa sagradong lugar.

Ang palabas na ito ay lumang tugtugin na. Ika nga, isang sineng "re-run". Ginaya na naman ang lehitimong People Power 2. Walang pagka-orihinal dahil mababaw ang kwento. Ni walang bida.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NBA PLAYOFFS

Charlotte sweeps Miami

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina—Jamal Mashburn got the best of his former team, scoring 21 points as the headband-wearing Charlotte Hornets beat the Miami Heat, 94-79, to complete a stunning three-game sweep in their NBA first round playoffs series.

Baron Davis also scored 21 in front of a raucous home crowd Friday, and Miami was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs for the fourth time in Pat Riley's six years as the Heat's coach.

Charlotte won this series' three games by a total of 67 points.

Mashburn, traded from Miami to Charlotte in a nine-player offseason deal, averaged 23.6 points in the series to carry the Hornets into the second round of the playoffs for the third time. They've never been to the Eastern Conference finals.

It was sweet redemption for Mashburn, who took much of the blame for Miami's past playoff failures.

The Heat will have to find someone else to blame this time.

The Hornets, who wore headbands throughout the series to show team unity, collected their first playoff series sweep. They took a double-digit lead early in the second quarter Friday, built it to 27 at halftime and didn't let Miami back into the game.

It did wonders for the city of Charlotte, which had been blase about the Hornets all season and barely blinked when the franchise filed for relocation to Memphis last month.

But for Game 3 against the Heat, fans wearing headbands—including singer Darius Rucker from the band Hootie and the Blowfish—arrived early carrying brooms and towels in the first true sellout of the season.

It was a stark change from a year ago, when just over 11,000 turned out for Charlotte's first-round playoff series against Philadelphia.

But this time the crowd was on its feet from the opening tipoff and was chanting "Sweep! Sweep! Sweep!" by the time P.J. Brown—another player who arrived from Miami as part of the offseason trade—hit two free throws to give the Hornets a 27-point lead right before halftime.

Former Hornets player Eddie Jones, booed every time he touched the ball, led Miami with 22 points.

Tim Hardaway, ineffective in the first two games because of a bruised left foot, didn't play for Miami. The Heat used a combination of Anthony Carter and rookie Eddie House in his place.

It was clear early the duo would fare no better against Davis, a second-year player, and Wesley than Hardaway had.

Davis scored 14 in the first half—six on flying dunks—and Wesley had 12 as the Hornets took a 58-31 lead at the break.

Miami struggled to get the ball inside to its powerful frontline of Alonzo Mourning, Anthony Mason—two former Hornets—and Brian Grant until the result was decided.

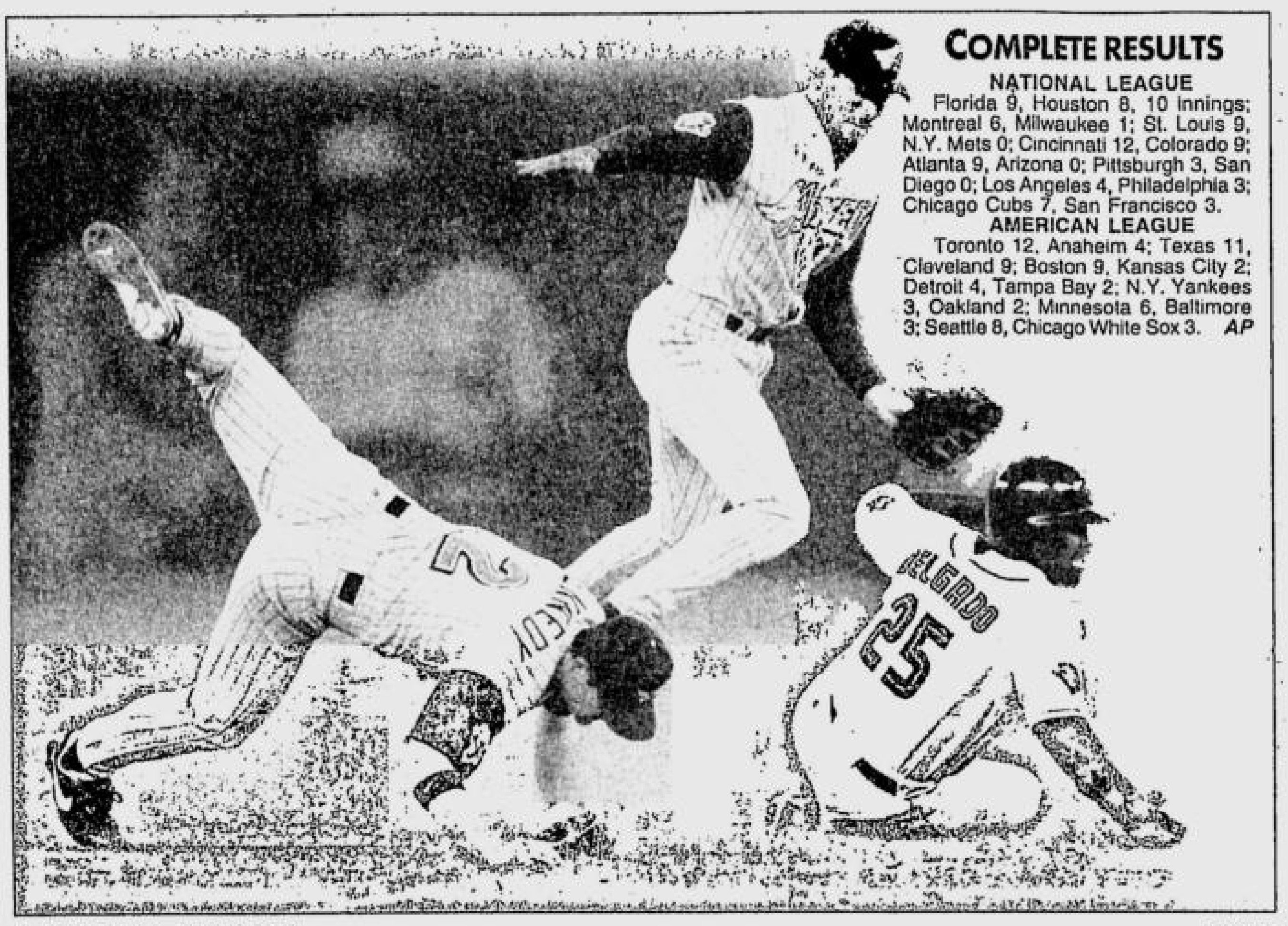
The trio was held to a combined 31 points in the game.

Meanwhile, six Phoenix Suns players are helping make sure the team plays in front of sellout crowds at home in their first-round playoff series against Sacramento.

The players have purchased about 4,000 tickets for Game 3 Sunday and Game 4 Wednesday and will distribute them to disadvantaged youngsters through area charities.

Jason Kidd, Tom Gugliotta, Penny Hardaway, Shawn Marion, Cliff Robinson and Chris Dudley came up with the money when it appeared the games at 19,023-seat America West Arena might not sell out. *AP*

IVERSON "It's going to be rough." FILEPHOTO



COMPLETE RESULTS

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Florida 9, Houston 8, 10 innings; Montreal 6, Milwaukee 1; St. Louis 9, N.Y. Mets 0; Cincinnati 12, Colorado 9; Atlanta 9, Arizona 0; Pittsburgh 3, San Diego 0; Los Angeles 4, Philadelphia 3; Chicago Cubs 7, San Francisco 3.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Toronto 12, Anaheim 4; Texas 11, Cleveland 9; Boston 9, Kansas City 2; Detroit 4, Tampa Bay 2; N.Y. Yankees 3, Oakland 2; Minnesota 6, Baltimore 3; Seattle 8, Chicago White Sox 3. *AP*

BASEBALL ACTION REUTERS

Toronto Blue Jays' Carlos Delgado (25) slides hard into Anaheim Angels' second baseman Adam Kennedy (left) and Angels' shortstop Benji Gil to break up a bases loaded double play attempt during the fourth inning of their American League baseball game in Toronto, Friday. Delgado was out on the play, but the Blue Jays managed to score a run on Angels's starting pitcher Jarrod Washburn. The Blue Jays won, 12-4.

Iverson ready to face hostile Indiana fans

INDIANAPOLIS—Allen Iverson already has been double-teamed by the Indiana Pacers on the court. Now he'll have to deal with a whole crowd of loud, hostile fans, too.

Pacers fans, remembering his last visit to Indianapolis, will be merciless. And he knows it.

"I know it's going to be rough, but it's been like that throughout my career at certain places," the 76ers guard said Friday about returning to Conseco Fieldhouse. "But that's what it's all about and what makes it so fun. The fans talk, but when you're on the court, you get to do your talking by playing basketball."

Game 3 of the Eastern Conference first-round playoff series is Saturday (Sunday in Manila). Indiana and Philadelphia split the first two games.

Game 4 will be here Wednesday night, with a fifth and deciding game, if necessary, back in Philadelphia next Friday.

Iverson was fined $5,000 by the NBA for shouting a derogatory remark about gays toward Pacers fans who were taunting him during his last regular-season appearance in Indianapolis. But he said he was only responding to repeated insults and racial slurs from the crowd behind the 76ers' bench.

The Pacers interviewed security personnel and ushers working in that area and found no one who heard any racial taunts. The team did beef up security at all their games after that.

"I'd rather talk with my game, and that's why I'm looking forward to Game 3," Iverson said. "Regardless if they have people in there with bullhorns, you just have to get out of there with a 'W.'"

Iverson said he wasn't concerned about security at Conseco.

"I'm not thinking about that incident. It's been blown out of proportion because it was on NBC," he said. "When it's me and something negative, it's like, 'Let's talk about this issue.' I get the last laugh when we get the win."

Philadelphia was eliminated by Indiana in the playoffs each of the past two years, but the 76ers won all three regular-season games against the Pacers this season and compiled the best record in the East and the best road record in the NBA.

Iverson had 45 points in a 116-98 victory in Philadelphia on Tuesday night, overcoming the Pacers' constant double-teaming efforts that worked so well in Game 1.

"Defensively, we'll try a couple of different things," Pacers coach Isiah Thomas said. "We'll give him some different looks, try to keep him off balance during the game and make him read some situations."

Indiana's Reggie Miller, who had 41 points on Tuesday—only eight in the second half, when Philadelphia took control—said he admires Iverson's toughness.

"He's a gamer," Miller said. "They say he'll be out a month and he's back in a week. That's what I like about Allen, that he's tough. I like tough kids."

Sixers coach Larry Brown said he would talk to Iverson about not letting the fans get to him. *AP*

Jazz vs Mavericks on '9'

VIVA Vintage Sports will telecast Game 3 of the Utah Jazz-Dallas Mavericks first-round NBA Playoffs series today at 12 noon on RPN-9. The Jazz lead the best-of-five series, 2-0, and are going for the sweep in today's game.

Hermie's win is Sandy's win

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

DESPITE an implausible loss in his last run, Wind Blown, the *bayang kareristas'* Horse of the Year for 2000, still got every tipster's nod as today's *patok na patok* in the First Gentleman Silver Cup race at San Lazaro.

In the 2,000-meter contest, the strapping colt is facing seven others, among them hot Triple Crown candidate Silver Story and veterans Materiales Fuertes, Streets of Gold and Gold Edition.

Wind Blown is carrying a tough 59-kilo load but insiders believe he can handle it well over the long route.

I bumped into businessman Sandy Javier, under whose keeping Wind Blown blossomed into what he is today, and he readily admitted that the horse should be the hand's down pick in the race.

"Given the right breaks and a good ride, Wind Blown will be hard to beat this Sunday," said Sandy of his former *pambato* who is now owned by Hermie Esguerra.

I asked Sandy if Materiales Fuertes, who he is fielding in under the colors of Andok's Litson Corp., can steal the show this afternoon. He just smiled and said: 'I still believe Wind Blown is the more superior horse. *Kung makakatsamba tayo okay pero kung maka*-forecast *lang okay din*.'"

Sandy promised to be at San Lazaro today to watch Materiales Fuertes and Wind Blown run in Race 7.

"I will root not only for Materiales Fuertes but for Wind Blown, too, because a win for Hermie (Esguerra) is also a win for me," Sandy added.

***

Star jockey Jeffril Zarate was among those who got the axe recently from the Philippine Racing Club's board of stewards.

Zarate, who's on a roll lately, was slapped an eight-racing week suspension for foul riding atop Something Best last April 20.

The spate of suspensions on erring jockeys, horses and even trainers at Santa Ana is a part of PRCI's campaign to professionalize local horse racing and rid it of "dirty gimmicks" of some sectors in the industry.

Incidentally, the PRCI board of stewards is now headed by former racing columnist Camilo Mendez. Keep up the good work, Boy!

Wind Blown, Silver Story clash at San Lazaro today

ALL EYES will be on Wind Blown and Silver Story, last year's most dominating horses, when the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office's First gentleman Silver Cup race fires off today at the San Lazaro Hippodrome.

A total of prize pot of P1.6-million is staked in the event honoring Mike Arroyo.

Wind Blown and Silver Story will be facing each other for only the second time since July last year when Wind Blown prevailed in a special race at the Santa Ana Park.

Unlike in their previous encounter, however, Wind Blown will be giving away five kilos in handicap weight to Silver Story based on the weight-for-age scale and the three-kilogram penalty for having won last December's PCSO Presidential Gold Cup

"The PCSO is very proud to sponsor another big race like the First Gentleman Cup this Sunday," PCSO chairperson Ma. Livia "Honey Girl" S. de Leon said.

WIND BLOWN

The featured race will be disputed over 2,000 meters and carries a guaranteed winner's purse of P1 million.

"Much of the pre-race excitement will no doubt be focused on the two favorites. However, race fans should not discount the possibility of an upset from any of the other notable challengers," said PCSO general manager Virgilio R. Angelo.

From the original nine-horse field, only eight are confirmed starters for this afternoon's outing folowing reports of the possible scratching of High Roller following the colt's recent lackluster showing.

Looming as one of the biggest threats to the favorites is defending Silver Cup champion and back-to-back winner Streets of Gold, the veteran mare who is coming off a big performance last week in only her second comeback start after a three-month layoff.

Arroyo, the race honoree, will be present to witness the race and personally award the coveted PCSO Silver Cup to the owner of the winning entry.

RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Adam's Call 2. Ikaw Pag Asa Ko 3. Priceless 4. Lady Chip
Race 2—1. District Three 2. My Indy 3. Free Bee
Race 3—1. Profitable 2. Exchange Deal 3. Miggy 4. Charisma
Race 4—1. Seiko Shita 2. Voice of Destiny 3. Point of Destiny
Race 5—1. Filthy Rich 2. Magic Fingers 3. Forest Dancer 4. Test Run
Race 6—1. Bold Freddy 2. The Topnotcher 3. Ang Seaman
Race 7—1. Materiales Fuertes 2. Wind Blown 3. Streets of Gold 4. Silver Story
Race 8—1. Suterian Era 2. Samahan 3. Northern King 4. True Mighty
Race 9—1. Black Force 2. Busanda Strike 3. Magnicolo
Race 10—1. Ocean Friend 2. Full Blast 3. Cherish Emblem 4. Altron
Race 11—1. Sky Wind 2. Baby Maxxine 3. Imus Emperor 4. Touch of Jax
Race 12—1. Sonata 2. Sovereignty 3. Absolute Power
Race 13—1. Darth Vader 2. Sunny Sky 3. Golden State 4. Sham Sham

RP jungolfers to Malaysia

EIGHT jungolfers left for Malaysia yesterday to see action in the annual Asia-Pacific Junior Golf Championships starting Tuesday, May 1 at the Kelab Golf Sarawak in Kuching.

Making up the delegation are Carlo Santos-Ocampo who will be playing in Class B, Matthew Manotoc, Miko Alejandro, Judeson Eustaquio, Allan Guy and Miguel Carlos Ochoa who will compete in Class C and Amado Eustaquio and 8-year-old Anthony See who will join the Class D division battle.

Head of delegation is Dr. Carlo Santos-Ocampo. They will be joined in Malaysia by Jungolf chair Amalia Montecillo and Vince Villafuerte. Travel arrangements were handled by Cordym headed by Celine Clemente.

"It's what we can a lead but mean delegation," said Jungolf president Merwin Mediana who saw the team off yesterday at the Ninoy Aquino airport.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Jungolf Classic, the sixth leg of the summer circuit, fires off on Wednesday at the Canlubang Golf and Country Club.

Delasin lands 18th

DOROTHY Joy Delasin came close to challenging for the lead until she bogeyed the last three holes, ending up in a tie for 18th after a one-under-par 69 yesterday in the Kathy Ireland Championship in Austin, Texas.

Before the disastrous finish hit her, Delasin scorched the front nine of the Onion Creek Golf Club with three birdies and still held a four-under card after picking up her fifth birdie for the day on the 14.th

Delasin was at 139, sixth behind solo leader Rosie Jones who had a 67 for a two-shot lead over Canadian Lorie Kane (68).

Jenny Rosales also made the cut, scoring a 71 to be with the group sharing 44th spot.

In Japan, Frankie Miñoza struggled all day and took a triple-bogey 7 on the 14th on the way to a five-over-par 75 that bounced him out of the Chunichi Crowns tournament leaderboard. *Jong Arcano*

SUBIC GP

Team Caltex-Havoline riders shine

AGUILAR (left) and Ramirez battle it out in Round 3.

SUBIC—Team Caltex-Havoline race drivers Mike Aguilar, Mikko David and Oscar Aguilar excelled in their respective classes during the second leg of the 2001 Subic Grand Prix here recently.

Pushing his Honda Civic EG6 to the limit, Aguilar started fifth on the grid but slowly worked his way up the standings against the more experienced Kookie Ramirez of Petron SRA and Nilo Pazcoguin of Team Tom's/Auto Trend to end up second overall and winner of Class B in Round 3 of the Blaze Super Saloon Championship.

"It was a tough race and the competition was pretty quick," said the 25-year-old Aguilar, the reigning Super Saloon C Champion.

In round 4, Aguilar finished third overall in his class, allowing him to score more points in his bid for Driver of the Year Award.

In the Production Car Championship, David (Class C) battled it out to the last lap of Round 3 against Enzo Pastor of Team TEC (Class B). After slicing past A driver Carlos Anton at the hairpin of the 2.8-kilometer race track, David and Pastor were bumper to bumper for majority of the race. They came into contact at least four times around the track until the last lap when Enzo made an error at the hairpin.

This allowed David's Civic Esi to make a run up the inside line along the backstraight. Pastor took a tight line forcing David to go over the grass. However, it was to David's advantage coming into the chicane. This gave the 27-year-old television director 10 more championship points against Pastor, taking him to the overall points lead in the Production Series. David managed to finish third in Round 4 despite the wet conditions.

Tan posts fastest time in drag racing

MATO Tan of Matonetics Racing blasted the quarter mile with a jaw-dropping 10.88 seconds at 132 miles per hour to post the best elapsed time of the day in the PDRF drag racing championship at the Manila Harbor Center recently.

Driving the "Just Two" turbo-charged Honda Civic hatchback, Tan also bagged his first Pro Quick 8 heads-up win during the Philippine Drag Racing Familysport's fourth "Battle by the Bay" super drags.

Mato's teammate Wilson Chua, qualified at 12.928 seconds and also earned his first Pro Bracket class win. Ian Jet Mathay, another teammate, clocked at 12.40 seconds to bag his first All-Blown class trophy.

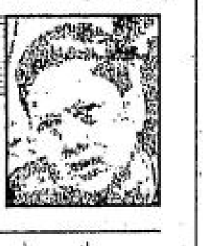
The PDRF's fourth event which was dedicated to Jose "Jomag" Maglonzo who passed away last April 9, was supported by Landtrade Properties, Nodalos Mufflers and Headers, Outlast Battery and the hottest Monster Radio RX 93.1.

In the 13.00 to 14.49 seconds Sportsman bracket, Francisco Blanco of Autoplus Sportzenturm was top qualifier with Vic Cruz as runner-up. Blanco's teammate Vicente Pena took the second spot in both the Quick 8 and Pro bracket classes. Pena also captured the Mitsubishi Showdown class for the second time.

The GoodGuys Dragsports, led by Jerik-O Jarlego, grabbed three class wins. Jerik-O, driving a supercharged Corolla, was the top eliminator in the 14.50 to 15.99 Hot Street bracket while teammates Nicky Jamiana took the All-Motor Shootout in his Civic and Clarence Santos as the new Honda Challenge champion. Angelo Puyat was runner-up in Hot Street.

Wayward train

SPECTATOR



Al S. Mendoza

YOU have a 6-foot-1 rookie with a heart as large as that of 7-foot-1 Shaquille O'Neal's size-17 shoes, how could you lose?

Mark Caguioa did just that Friday, ripping his chest wide open to lay bare a heart that even Braveheart Mel Gibson could not match this particular evening.

That last shot for the night by the "blond one," as our Marc Anthony Reyes aptly describes Caguioa for sporting a hair dyed gold, brought me back to that 1998 shot fired by Michael Jordan. That shot gave Chicago its sixth NBA crown in the '90s.

Here was Jordan with the ball, time running out, the game on the line. He faked an assault at left quartercourt, then went for a screeching halt. His sudden stop threw Byron Russell off balance, allowing Jordan a clear view of the goal while stopping Utah dead on its tracks. With a sweet pull-up, Jordan hit the memorable shot that proved to be his last since he was chosen as a third-round pick by Chicago in 1984.

That moment was almost duplicated by Caguioa Friday evening.

Receiving an inbound pass with 5.3 ticks left, Caguioa uncorked an attack for the basket. But unlike Jordan, Caguioa did not attempt to fake his attack. Instead, he eluded Jun Marzan with a semi-crossover dribble and then, when two men much taller than him appeared ready to block him, he unleashed an arching shot reminiscent of Francis Arnaiz's style decades ago when Caguioa wasn't even born yet.

The shot shattered a 72-all tie.

The shot gave Ginebra a 2-0 lead in their best-of-five playoffs.

The shot pushed the Gin Kings to within a game of entering the finals.

Suddenly, all that Shell had labored for to get to the semifinals as league topnotcher appeared ready to vanish into thin air. For, another defeat today would push Ginebra to a first All-Filipino finals appearance since 1997. The last time Ginebra won the All-Filipino title was in 1988, when the Gins defeated Purefoods, 3-1, and with Sen. Robert Jaworski as Ginebra's player-coach.

Needless to say, Ginebra's old magic is back.

Shell had better make quick adjustments or it might yet kiss its title hopes goodbye today.

A hot Ginebra is like a wayward train: Unstoppable.

The antidote to that?

Perry Ronquillo's 300-pound frame.

SHELL IN TROUBLE

Ginebra eyes finals seat

By MARC ANTHONY REYES

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:15 p.m. Pop Cola vs SMB (series tied, 1-1)
6:30 p.m. Shell vs Ginebra (Gins leads, 2-0)

WEARING its two PBA All-Filipino Cup semifinal victories like a badge of honor, Barangay Ginebra braces itself for a grand party tonight.

Unless Shell spoils it by fighting back, the Gin Kings are headed for their 14th championship appearance—their first in four years—if they win Game 3 of their best-of-five series at the Araneta Coliseum.

San Miguel Beer and Pop Cola gun for a 2-1 edge in their separate semis series in the 4:15 p.m. game.

There was no trace of his usual self-deprecating remarks from Ginebra coach Allan Caidic Friday night after his team beat Shell, 74-72.

"We'll definitely go for it on Sunday," said Caidic. "This is the closest we can get to the finals and we won't lose it."

The confidence came from rousing victories in the first two games where the Gins successfully ran around Shell's vaunted defense through spunky rookie Mark Caguioa.

In game 1, Caguioa made 18 points (14 in the second half), seven rebounds, three assists and two steals before unloading 14 points, 10 rebounds, two steals and one block in Game 2.

But the rookie's indelible mark in the series would be that devil-may-care running jumper in the last 5.3 seconds that won Game 2 for the Gins.

"He's not afraid of being either a hero or a goat," said Caidic of the 21-year-old Caguioa.

Caidic also didn't seem afraid of Shell's capability to come back. And for good reasons:

No team in PBA history has ever come back from a 0-2 deficit in a best-of-five semis series although Purefoods (1990 Third Conference) and Crispa (1975 Reinforced) returned from 0-2 to win best-of-five title series.

It will also be special for under-achieving Gin King Jun Limpot, who has the most numbers of games played (352) without having a Finals stint.

The last time Ginebra made the Finals was under coach Robert Jaworski back in the 1997 Commissioner's Cup where it beat Purefoods for the title.

Paeng's pa slams law on incentives

By JUNE NAVARRO

NEPOMUCENO

WHILE the Guinness Book of World Records and the Illinois-based bowling Hall of Fame look up to the bowling World Cup, the Philippine government continues to ignore its significance in the international sporting scene.

Angel Nepomuceno, father and coach of Hall of Famer Paeng Nepomuceno, has this axe to grind after his son's four World Cup titles were omitted by Republic Act 9064 which was signed recently by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

The law grants past and future sports achievers in the Olympics, Asian Games and quadrennial World Championships a cash bonanza to as much as P5 million.

"There's something wrong with the law. They failed to put into account that like golf and billiards, bowling world championships are either done annually or every two years," said Mang Angel.

He added the law, authored by Representatives Ranjit Shahani and Gilberto Duavit but rewritten by Sen. Robert Jaworski, is unfair to Paeng considering that since the '70s, the five-time PSA Athlete of the Year has been spending on his own stints abroad.

"Not a single centavo," was the elder Nepomuceno's reply when asked about the amount the government doled out to Paeng's international campaigns since the '70s.

Nevertheless, Nepomuceno, the only bowler to capture the World Cup in three different decades, got P2 million from the government for the four titles he won.

He also earned P500,000 as gratuity under former PSC chair Philip Juico's term in 1996 and another P500,000 in 1992.

But while Nepomuceno slammed RA 9064, Bong Coo, another multi-awarded bowler, stands to earn a windfall for her feats in the Asian Games and the World FIQ, a bowling tournament held every four years.

Coo, also enshrined in the bowling Hall of Fame, hauled a total of five gold medals and two silvers in the Asian Games (1978 and 1986) and scooped three gold medals and two silvers in the World FIQ (1979 and 1983).

All athletes who won medals and titles prior to the enactment of RA 9064 will get 50 percent of what was stipulated in the law.

For future individual event winners, an Olympic gold is worth P5 million, quadrennial World Championship events P2.5 million, Asian Games P1 million and SEA Games P100,000.

Bombers shock Eagles

JOSE Rizal's Heavy Bombers stunned defending champion Ateneo Blue Eagles, 92-89, yesterday at the start of the 7th Fr. Martin Cup invitational basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Ariel Capus knocked in 23 points to spark Coach Boy de Vera's Bombers to their first victory in the 20-team senior division of the tourney sanctioned by the Basketball Association of the Philippines led by Gonzalo "Lito" Puyat II and jointly sponsored by Agfa, Photo Plus, Red Bull and SMART-Piltel.

The Blue Eagles missed several of their stars who were still playing in the PBL tournament in Makati.

The Bombers led 46-41 at halftime but fell behind, 54-59, going into the last 3:35. Then Capus sparked another JRU comeback to surge ahead for good, 76-74.

Fr. James Reuter paid tribute to Fr. Edgar A. Martin, the late Ateneo athletic moderator and longest serving BAP secretary general.

Puyat gave a brief inspirational talk and thanked PLDT's Manny Pangilinan and Red Bull's George Chua for their support to tourney.

The scores:

JRU 92—Capus 23, W. Te 19, Valena 15, Finullar 13, Gregorio 5, Lazaro 5, Jorge 2, Santos 2, Delos Reyes 2, Stapley 2, Espiritu 2, Villarin 0

ATENEO 89—Fonacier 17, Del Rosario 14, Elmido 13, Ansasy 12, Chia 10, Membrere, Tenorio 6, Espiritu 3, Abrera 2, Goodfried 2, Naynes 0, Pelayo 0, Gonzales 0, Santillan 0

Halftime: 46-42.0

Dagupan cycling Tuesday

A STRONG field of 70 riders will compete in the annual Alaxan Pista'y Dayat Cycling Classic on Tuesday in Dagupan City.

The 12-man Philippine team and Marlboro Tour notables Victor Espiritu, Warren Davadilla, Arnel Querimit and Bernard Luzon are among those to be flagged off at 9:30 a.m. by Dagupan Mayor Al Fernandez at the Tondalican Beach.

A total purse of P68,500 is at stake with the champion getting P12,000, the runner-up P9,000 and the third placer P7,000. They will also be getting trophies.

The 220-km race covering the western coastal towns of Pangasinan will also end at Tondalican.

Villanueva lifts Ateneo

By DENNIS EROA

BULLSTRONG Enrico Villanueva sizzled as Ateneo-Pioneer edged Osaka Iridology, 77-75, yesterday in the PBL Chairman's Cup at the Makati Coliseum.

The 6-foot-5 Villanueva shattered Osaka's defense as he escaped with 13 of his game-high 28 points in the fourth quarter. His layup with 14.8 seconds remaining also broke the last deadlock at 75-75, as the Insurers finally snapped a three-game losing streak for a 2-4 win-loss card.

It was another heartbreaker for the Iridologists, who absorbed their sixth straight loss. With Rommel Daep and Willy Wilson scoring at will, Osaka posted a huge 17-point halftime lead, 50-33, but collapsed when Ateneo tightened its defense.

In the first game, Egay Billones came to the rescue as GIV Beauty Soap beat slumping Montaña Pawnshop, 71-63. GIV improved its record to 3-3 and now shares third place with titleholder Welcoat and PharmaQuick.

First game

GIV 71—Bacani 19, Legaspi 15, Billones 13, Kalaw 9, Sanz 5, Calo 4, Gumatay 4, Peña 2, Codamon 0, Quiambao 0.

MONTAÑA 63—Gotlenbos 15, David 12, Torrente 10, Dimaunahan 9, Medina 6, Lao 5, Zamora 4, Estrada 2, Latoreno 0.

Quarters: 19-16, 31-32, 46-42, 71-63.

Second game

ATENEO-PIONEER 77—Villanueva 28, Sison 14, Alvarez 10, Gonzalez 9, Ferrer 9, Tan Chi 3, Quimpo 2, Benitez 2, Yao 0, Victoria 0.

OSAKA 75—Daep 21, Wilson 15, Castro 10, Cabanayan 7, Neil 6, Sta Maria 6, Ramos 6, Omolon 4, Cuan 0, Asmad 0.

Quarters: 27-17, 50-33, 68-59, 77-75.

Negros battles Cebu

NEGROS and Cebu dispute the MBA Cebuana-Lhuillier Friendship Games at 4 p.m. today at the New Cebu City Coliseum. The Negros Slashers ripped the LBC Blades, 101-94, while the Cebu Gems routed the Andok's Knights, 105-82, in Friday's games. LBC and Andok's clash for third place at 2 p.m.

Batangas racing unfolds

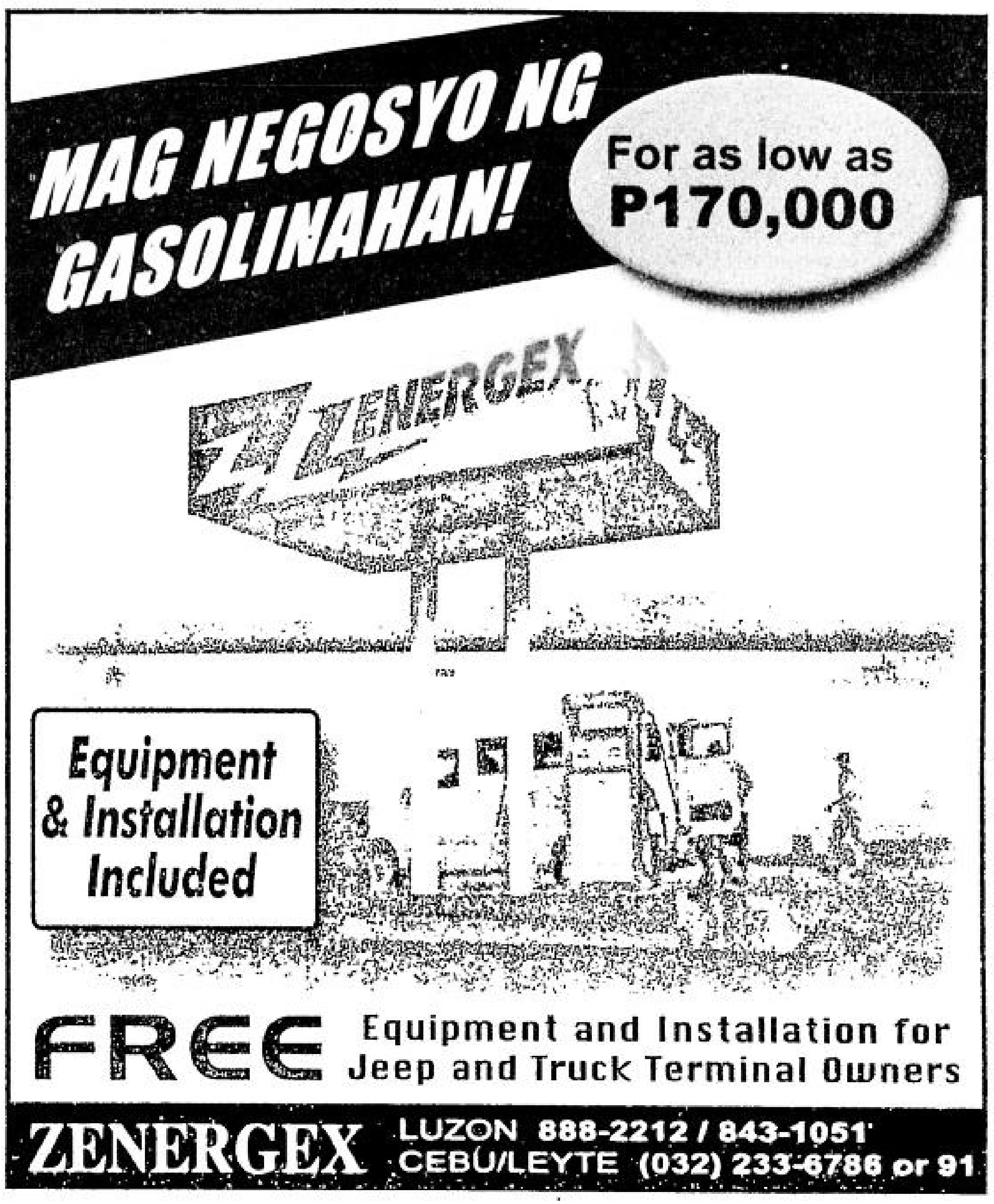
THE ELECTION fever takes a backseat with the staging of the kickoff rounds of the much-awaited "BRC Formula Speedway" at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas today.

The country's leading race car and motorcycle experts, led by Jody Coseteng and Jolet Jao, have already confirmed their participation in the two-day event organized by the Batangas Racing Circuit Association and sponsored by Pilipinas Shell, Toyota, Norkis-Yamaha, Marlboro, Kilton Motors and MOF Shipping.

Coseteng will be one of the favorite in the Philippine National Touring Car Championship, along with Jomari Yllana, Nilo Pazcoguin, Mike Aguilar and Louie and Miguel Ramirez.

Jao will be the main man in the National Super Bike Series, along with Toti Alberto, Rey Relativo and Randy Ortiz.

"With all these top motorsports stars in attendance, we expect exciting and memorable car and motorcycle races this weekend," said BRC Executive Gov. Ed Pena.



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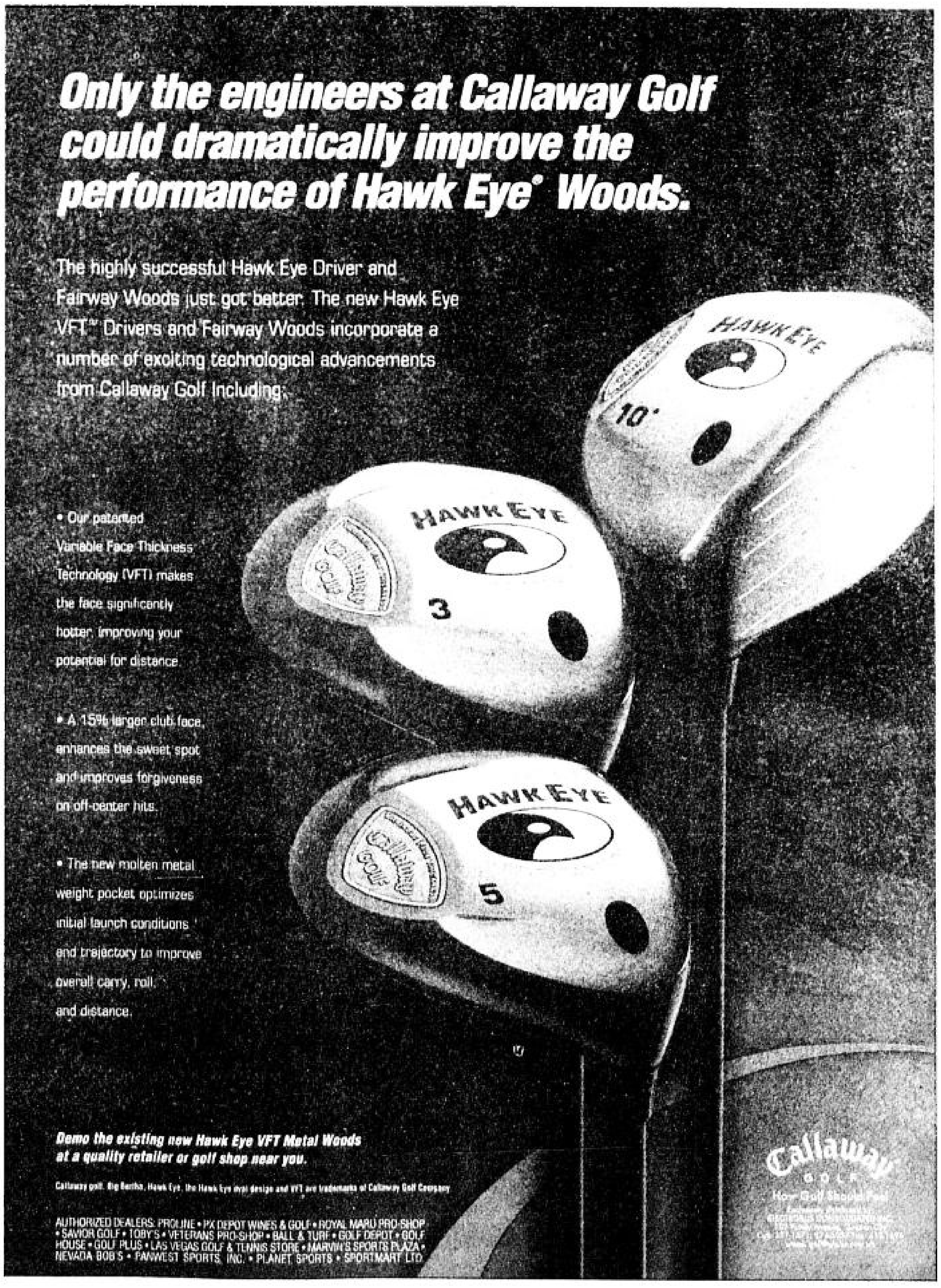

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COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

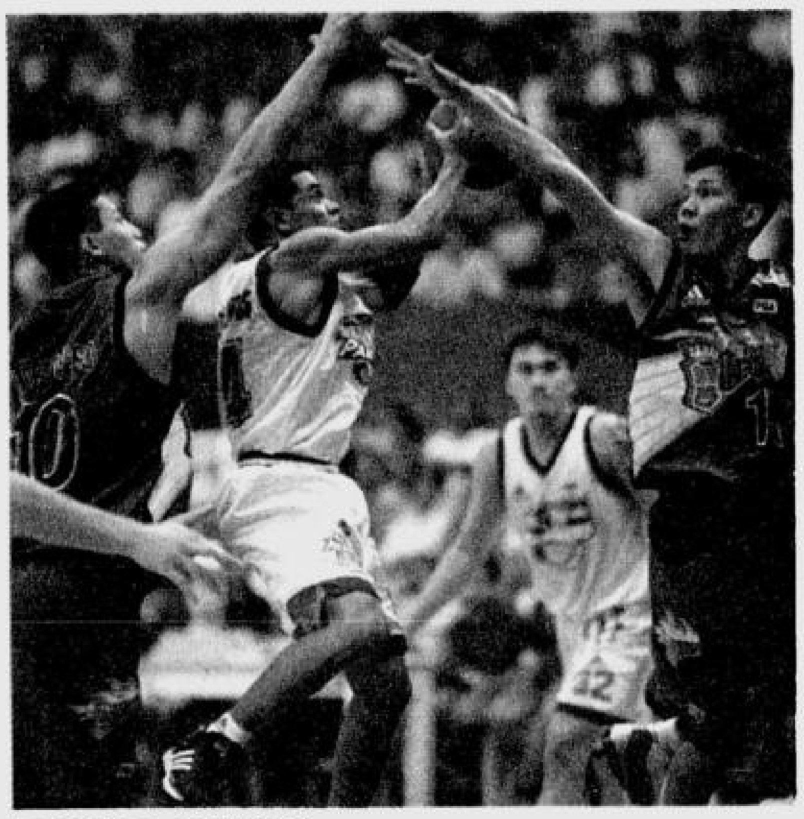
MOTOR SPORTS: International Motorsport News 2001 at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
F1 Qualifying - Spanish Grand Prix at 11 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
Max Power at 12 noon (r) on Star Sports
Race Day - Spanish Grand Prix at 7 p.m. on Star Sports
F1 - Spanish Grand Prix at 7:45 p.m. on Star Sports
SBK Superbike Highlights at 11:30 p.m. on ESPN
BASKETBALL: Harlem Globetrotters vs NABC Collegiate All-Stars at 7 a.m. (r) on ESPN
NBA Inside Stuff at 7:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
NBA Playoffs, First Round – Indiana vs Philadelphia, Game 3 at 8 p.m. (r) on ESPN
This Week in the NBA at 11:30 p.m. on CNN
GOLF: PGA Greater Greensboro Chrysler Classic, Third Round at 1 p.m. (delayed) on Star Sports
Golfglobe 2001 at 5 p.m. on Star Sports
BOXING: Cassius Clay - The Early Years at 11:30 a.m. (r) on ESPN
TENNIS: WTA Family Circle Cup, Finals at 5:30 p.m. on Star Sports
ATP Tennis Show at 7:30 p.m. on ESPN
BEACH VOLLEYBALL: FIVB Macau Open, Women's 3rd Place and Finals at 3 p.m. on Star Sports
SOCCER: Western Union World Football at 9 a.m. (r) on ESPN
Italian Serie A at 9:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. (r) on ESPN
UEFA Champions League Weekly at 10:30 p.m. on ESPN
Spanish Football League at 10:30 p.m. on Star Sports and tomorrow at 2 a.m. on ESPN

Sunday SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▪ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Golf Power feature

GOLF Power today presents the first part of the 2001 Asia Pacific Junior Open held recently at the Rose Garden Country Resort, Golf Course and Cultural Center in Bangkok, Thailand. The show is aired every Sunday, 3 p.m., on IBC 13.



DRIVING JOHNNY ROMY HOMILLADA

Johnny Abarrientos (middle) of Pop Cola puts up a shot against San Miguel Beer's Olsen Racela and Danny Ildefonso in Game 2 of their PBA All Filipino Conference playoff series last Friday night at Philsports. The Beermen triumphed, 81-66. *(Story on page A17)*

Torre, Antonio fall; Bong in contention

Standings after Round 7:

Men's Division: Dao, Nguyen, 5.5 points; Adianto, 5; Villamayor, 4.5; Antonio, Gonzales, Juswanto, Datu, Ranola, 4; Torre, Paragua, Garma, Sayson, Senador, Laylo, 3.5.

Women's Division: Nguyen, Hoang, 6 points; Vo, 4.5; Mendoza, 4; Batceceg, Le, Mariano, 3.5.

BONG Villamayor was left to carry the fight for Filipinos yesterday as his fellow GMs Eugene Torre and Joey Antonio fell by the wayside in the Vietnamese-dominated Asian Zonal Chess Championships at the Grand Boulevard Hotel-Manila.

Showing why he's the country's highest rated player, the bespectacled Villamayor bested IM Mark Paragua and stayed a point behind defending champion Dao Thien Hai and Nguyen Anh Dung, both of Vietnam.

Dao dumped fellow GM and countryman Nguyen Thanh Son in 56 moves of a Sicilian Paulsen, while Anh Dung downed Antonio in 31 moves of a Caro-Kann to raise their total to 5.5 points after seven rounds.

Top seeded Indon GM Utut Adianto, board 1 medalist in the Istanbul Olympiad, beat Torre in 29 moves of an English Opening and boosted his chances for a stint in the World Chess Championship with 5 points. Torre bowed out of contention at 3.5 points.

Villamayor, who lost the zone title to Dao via the tiebreak last year, was alone at 4.5 points and could still qualify if he wins against Dao today and Adianto either draws or loses his assignment.

The top two male finishers in the Asian zone 3.2a will advance to the world meet along with the female champion.

With only 4 points to show and two rounds to go, Antonio dropped his bid to regain his 1998 Asian Zonal crown. Providing him company were Indon IM Denny Juswanto, NM Jayson Gonzales, Fide master Idelfonso Datu and NM Yves Ranola.

. Datu and Ranola agreed to split the point and so did Juswanto and Gonzales.

The Vietnamese extended their stranglehold in women's play with WGM Hoang Than Trang and Nguyen Thi Thanh An pulling away from their pursuers with 6 points each.

Hoang, ranked 12th in the world, whipped Mongolian Tuyshintog Batceceg in 49 moves of a Dutch Leningrad, while Nguyen subdued compatriot Vo in 63 moves of a Modern Defense.

Tied with Vo at 4.5 points was fellow Vietnamese Tran Thi Kim Loan, who defeated Le Kiu Thien Kim in 63 moves of a Caro-Kann. *Roy Luarca*

Pacquiao KOs Thai

By Recah Trinidad

KIDAPAWAN City—A hurting and puzzled Manny Pacquiao thundered to a sixth round knockout victory over a skillful but foul-punching Thai foe to retain his WBC super bantamweight international title before a tumultuous crowd here yesterday.

Pacquiao sank and got up thrice from the floor after suffering successive low blows from Wethya Sakmuangklang who kept charging in despite having absorbed the champ's biggest blows.

Pacquiao, often outpunched and appearing desperate, finally, caught the Thai with a crushing right to the face in the sixth round then chased him to the neutral corner where he scored with unanswered combinations that knocked down Sakmuangklang. The Thai tried to get back on his feet but was counted out by referee Bruce McTavish.

Pacquiao's fifth successful defense of his title capped a historic and triumphant night for two other Filipinos, Ernesto and Juanito Rubillar, who kept their respective WBC international minimum weight and junior flyweight crowns with sensational stoppages of their Thai challengers.

Pacquiao departed from his aggressive brawling style and fought a cautious, calculating game in the early rounds.

The sensational knockout artist from Gen. Santos City, scheduled to leave for an American campaign on May 17, thus completed his fifth straight defense of his crown via a stoppage.

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METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

3 cops nabbed for robbing, detaining OCW

Victim rescued in QC church

BY JEROME ANING

THREE policemen of the Northern Police District and a civilian were arrested for allegedly robbing and extorting money from an overseas contract worker and her family on Friday night.

But the erring lawmen did not surrender right away when intelligence officers of the Western Police District tried to arrest them.

PO3 John Daludado, 29, of the Navotas police, PO1 Edison Ofilan, 35, of the NPD mobile force, SPO1 Felipe Santarinala, 53, of the Caloocan City police, as well as butcher Quirino Asilo, 30, a resident of 12-a Bagong Silang, Caloocan, decided to shoot it out with the authorities and took hostage OCW Imelda Fragas, 26.

3 COPS/ A23

The mascot is a math teacher

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

TALES OF THE CITY

IF YOU watch the PBA games live, chances are you've seen the big mascots wearing their respective teams' get-ups.

The costumes of the mascots are at least two inches thick and made of foam and thick layers of fabrics that wrap the person inside it from head to foot.

As if it's not hard enough wearing the heavy costumes, the

THE MASCOT/ A23

SALAMAT JR

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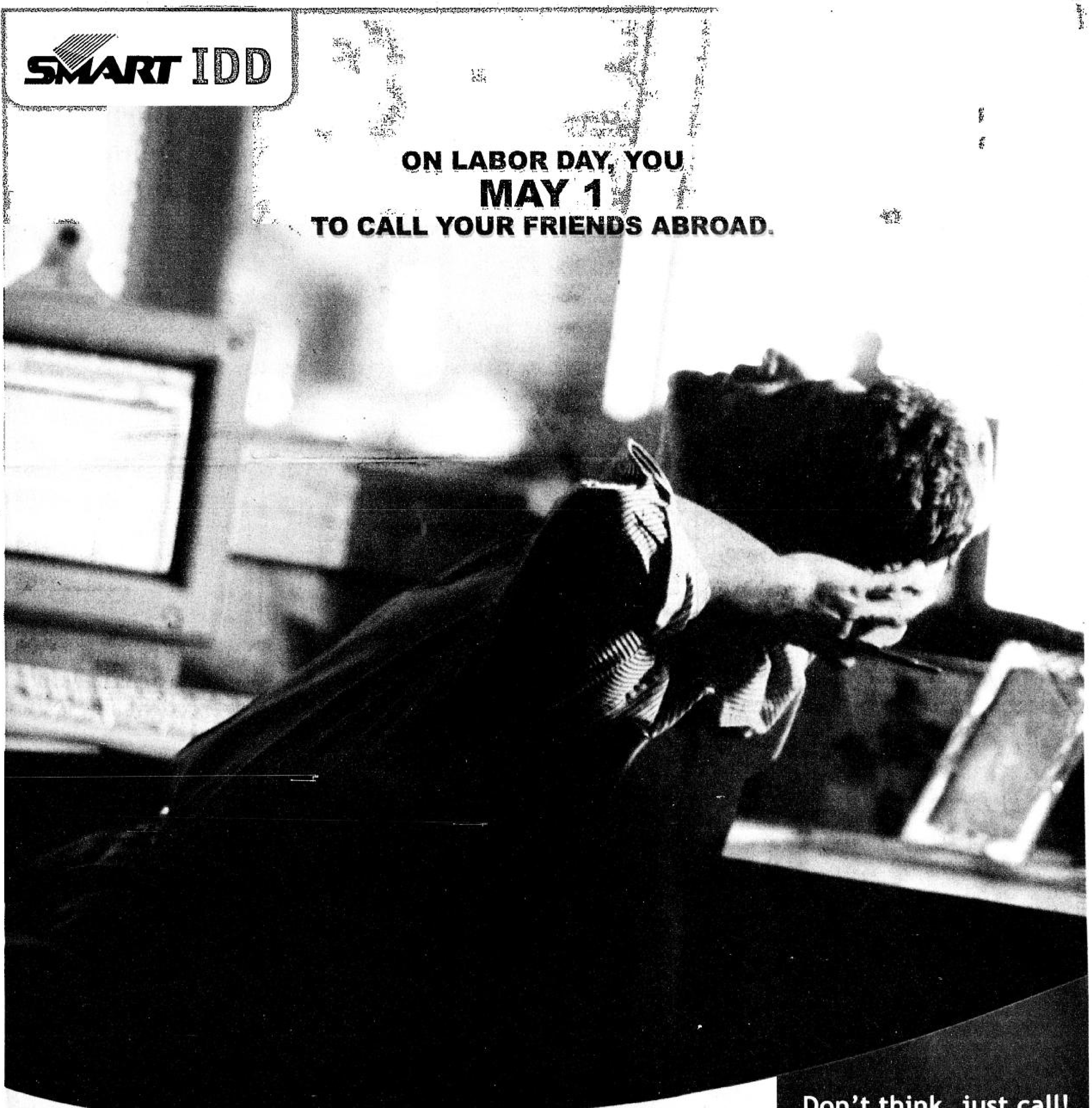

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Armida: I will fight for you

ARMIDA Siguion-Reyna promised residents of Makati's 1st district that she would fight for them in Congress the same way she has fought for her advocacies throughout her career as a show biz personaltiy and as chair of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board. Siguion-Ryena made the assurance in the wake of the arrest and detention of former President Joseph Estrada.

In an emotionally charged speech before a huge crowd in Barangay Pio del Pilar recently, Siguion-Reyna said she would not abandon Estrada even if he was arrested. Estrada appointed Siguion-Reyna as chair of the MTRCB, which she held for two-and-a-half years until Estrada was forced out of power.

She lamented the events that led to Estrada's detention. "Now that the country's democracy is in peril, I will just pray for the nation," she said.

She said Estrada's critics and political antagonists have at last won and succeeded in placing him behind bars. "I have a heavy heart and I am angry at the travesty done to our Constitution," she said.

She said the manner in which the warrant of his arrest was served denied Estrada the respect and dignity due him as a former president. "He is only one man," she said, "but an army of policemen and soldiers trooped to his residence as if they were going to arrest a thousand criminals."

Siguion-Reyna said she hopes the country's problems would be solved with Estrada's arrest. "Now they can't blame Erap anymore for every problem that we have in our country," she said. "He is in jail now."

The Barangay Del Pilar meeting started with a long prayer for the safety of Estrada led by Siguion-Reyna's daughter-in-law Bibeth Orteza. Soon after, show biz celebrities from her "Aawitan Kita" family sang *kundimans* like ``Ang Bayan Ko," ``Diwata," and ``Sana Wala nang Wakas."

Siguion-Reyna ended the meeting by singing "Handog" and "Kahit na Magtiis," a patriotic song about the plight of the oppressed with lyrics written by Estrada.

PPC, PMP in TV debate

THE PEOPLE'S Television Network makes history as it brings together the two biggest political coalitions in the country in "Hatol ng Bayan: The Great Debate," the first formal senatorial debate series on television.

The senatorial candidates of the People Power Coalition and the Puwersa ng Masang Pilipino will come face to face in a structured debate format to argue on crucial national issues and to field questions from panelists and from the public.

It is the first formal encounter for the two opposing parties on live TV.

Prominent election lawyer Romy Macalintal and TV-movie actor Leo Martinez will act as moderators, with Phil Alfonso, Randy David and Jay Sonza as panelists.

"Hatol ng Bayan: The Great Debate" will air tomorrow, April 30, live and nationwide over PTV.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, April 29, 2001
3rd Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: **Acts 5:27-32, 40-41**

The guards brought the disciples in the Temple and the Council and the High Priest began to questioned them, "We gave you strict orders not to preach such a Savior; but you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you intend charging us with the killing of this man." To this Peter and the apostles replied, "Better for us to obey God rather than any human authority!

The God of our ancestors raised Jesus whom you killed by hanging him on a wooden post. God set him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to grant repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel. We are witnesses to all these things, as well as the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

They called in the apostles and had them whipped, and ordered them not to speak again of Jesus Savior. Then they set them free.

The apostles went out from the Council rejoicing that they were considered worthy to suffer disgrace for the sake of the Name.

2nd Reading: **Rev 5:11-14**

I went on looking; I heard the noise of a multitude of angels gathered around the throne, the living creatures and the elders, numbering millions of millions, crying out with a loud voice:

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive *power and riches, wisdom and strength, honor, glory and praise.*

Then I heard the voice of the whole universe, heaven, earth, sea and the place of the dead; every creature cried out:

To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb *be praise, honor, glory and power for ever and ever.*

And the four living creatures said, *Amen*, while the elders bowed down and worshiped.

Gospel: **Jn 21:1-19**

Jesus revealed himself to the disciples by the Lake of Tiberias. He appeared to them in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas who was called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two other disciples were together; and Simon Peter said to them, "I'm going fishing." They replied, "We will come with you" and they went out and got into the boat. But they caught nothing that night.

When day had already broken, Jesus was standing on the shore, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus called them, "Children, have you anything to eat?" They answered, "Nothing." Then he said to them, "Throw the net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they had lowered the net, they were not able to pull it in because of the great number of fish.

Then the disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!" At these words, "It's the Lord," Simon Peter put on his clothes, for he was stripped for work, and jumped into the water. The other disciples came in the boat dragging the net full of fish; they were not far from land, about a hundred meters.

When they landed, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you've just caught." So Simon Peter climbed into the boat and pulled the net to shore. It was full of big fish – one hundred and fifty-three – but, in spite of this, the net was not torn.

Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast," and not one of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" for they knew it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and he did the same with the fish.

This was the third time that Jesus revealed himself to his disciples after rising from the dead.

After they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." And Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

A second time Jesus said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" And Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Look after my sheep." And a third time he said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

Peter was saddened because Jesus asked him a third time, "Do you love me?" and he said, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you."

Jesus then said, "Feed my sheep. Truly, I say to you, when you were young you put on your belt and walked where you liked. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will put a belt around you and lead you where you do not wish to go."

Jesus said this to make known the kind of death by which Peter was to glorify God. And he added, "Follow me."

Commentary:

There is a restoration of the apostles to discipleship. They have received a second call to begin all over after their fall. There were no conditions given. Not even a word of rebuke or blame. This is what God's reign is all about. It is not bought nor earned. One does not partake of it because one deserves it. One is simply invited to share in it ("Come and eat your meal.") out of sheer love and freedom Jesus could have replaced them, save for the beloved disciple but he did not. Only people, be they lay or cleric, who realize that God's love alone is the reason for their Christian vocation, may dare assume any pastoral responsibility among God's people. Otherwise, they would just be acting as their proprietors, when in fact they are the Lord's: "Feed my lamb. Feed my sheep." The unconditional love one receives is the cause for an unconditional love one can give.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (EVIDENCE)—Rebuttal evidence—Rebuttal evidence is that which given to explain, repel, counteract or disprove facts given in evidence by the adverse party. It is also defined as evidence in denial of some affirmative fact which the adverse party has attempted to prove. Myrna as the mother of the victim and wife of Ricardo was properly called to the witness stand to rebut all damaging insinuations pertaining to the accused's homosexuality. By testifying in rebuttal, Myrna is in effect commenting that the homosexual affair, whether true or imagined, was not the real basis for the filing of the rape charge. Even more apparent is that whatever rebuttal statement could have been evoked from Ricardo would merely be corroborative since Myrna had said and denied in her rebuttal all that was necessary to turn this case in their favor. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Bellosillo, Second Division, People v. Santos, G.R.No. 127846, October 18, 2000]

Digest by R.B. Vera

Campaign 101 for politicians

VOTERS need educating, but so do political candidates. They need to learn a lesson or two about winning votes.

And they need to be true.

This concern was raised by Henry S. Tenedero, president of the Center for Learning and Teaching Styles (CLTS) Philippines, the local arm of an international network of schools and educators advocating educational reforms.

Tenedero explained the need to rid the country's political system of "trapos" or traditional politicians who still utilize age-old campaign methods that often bore their constituents to death.

"There are cases where a good man fails to win votes because he does not know how to engage his audience or how to deliver his piece in a way that they will remember," Tenedero said.

"On the other hand, there are those who charm their way to power with empty promises that make them lose the people's trust in the end," he added.

In a media briefing earlier this month, Tenedero presented a few simple but very helpful tips to help qualified but audience-shy candidates win the elections and at the same time help the public detect those who are just "acting."

He laid out the groundwork for the "politician's education campaign."

"If you want to reach your constituents, your message has to be delivered in a variety of ways because everyone absorbs information differently," Tenedero said, noting that even in families, no two people learn in exactly the same way.

He said that approximately 55 percent of the adult population are what he called "global processors" ("They have to see the big picture first before they can focus on details) and 28 percent are analytic ("They need to see details, then they build those details into an understanding").

The rest, he said, are integrated, meaning that if they are interested in what you are proposing, they can adjust to your style.

Tenedero said that to communicate effectively, politicians need to know how their audience receives information.

"Three decades of research has verified that people take in information through different senses," he said. "The least sensory strength they have is the ability to listen and remember three-fourths of what they hear. Globals respond best when you tell them first what you want to do and then how you actually will do it. Analytics respond best when you give them a step-by-step plan for getting done what you want to do.

"To deliver in a way that responds to most people, use both printed word and graphically illustrated visuals while speaking. Get the audience to use their arms, hands, and bodies in response to your questions or statements."

He said that to respond to both globals and analytics, candidates should make their basic message sober and use a bit of related humor.

"If you are socializing, accent the humor," he said. "If you want votes, accent the message and tease a bit. Global processors internalize new and difficult information when relaxed, whereas analytic processors create their own tensions."

He said that traditional methods of campaign--long, boring speeches that last till the wee hours of the morning—do not work anymore.

"When you talk, the odds are great that less than 20 percent of your audience will remember three-fourths of what you say," he said. "When you distribute printed materials, no more than 30 percent of the readers will remember much of what they read."

He said, however, that if a combination of seeing, hearing and interacting with the audience is used, the audience would retain 90 percent of the information.

He stressed that the first three minutes of a campaign is crucial, a make-or-break thing.

Here, Tenedero said, it would be important to make eye contact, catch people's attention and pique their interest to make them stay.

Finally, Tenedero advised politicians to be true.

"You can be the best speaker and the most effective motivator of people, but if you are not sincere in what you do, it would all be worthless," he said. "In the end, the content of one's heart and character is still the most important criterion among public servants."

METRO CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Tamayo-Pip proclamation rally today

A NUMBER of show business celebrities are expected to join the Las Piñas City's Anti-Trapo Coalition proclamation rally this afternoon, according to rally organizers.

The Lakas-NUCD, PDP-Laban, Reporma and Liberal Party Coalition official candidates led by congressional contender Tony Tamayo, mayoral candidate Cesar Gonzales and vice mayoral candidate Tirso Cruz III and the rest of candidates for the city council will be proclaimed as the official bets of the alliance.

A motorcade in the morning will kick off the day-long political activity.

Cruz, a TV and movie actor popularly known as Pip, will reunite with his former screen partner, superstar Nora Aunor, who will endorse his candidacy.

Cruz has also received endorsements from religious and socio-civic organizations.

Expected to grace the rally are Ricky Davao, Rez Cortez, Sex Bomb dancers, Miguel Vera, Gabby Eigenman, Gina Alajar, Shiela Cruz, Sandy Andolong and others.

Tamayo is facing a well-entrenched political clan that has been ruling Las Piñas for decades. He recently led the crusade in cleansing the Las Piñas voters' list, which the Commission on Elections ruled en banc to be tainted with illegal entries.

Tamayo has a post-graduate degree in hospital administration from the George Washington University in the United States and a commerce degree from the University of Santo Tomas. He is also a Manila Jaycees senator and a Lion's Club International Charter governor.

Tamayo supports 300 scholars annually and provides 40 free hospital beds for sick indigents.

Bagatsing calls for barangay drug drive

AN AGGRESSIVE drug-enforcement program in the barangay level is the most effective way of protecting youths in Manila against the drug menace, Amado S. Bagatsing said yesterday.

Bagatsing, the People Power Coalition candidate for mayor of Manila, said the fight against the drug menace starts in the neighborhood.

"Barangay officials should be the first line of defense against drug pushers," he said. "They know everybody in their areas, so they can easily spot strangers who are potential drug pushers."

He noted that drug enforcement authorities have identified Manila as one of the big transshipment points for international drug traffickers, particularly those operating out of Hong Kong.

He blamed loose law enforcement in the increase of drug-related cases in Manila.

"Manila has become one big drug den because the city officials are soft on drug dealers," he said.

To help victims of substance abuse, Bagatsing said he plans to build more counseling and rehabilitation centers for them.

He also wants to improve health care, a key program of his when he was a Manila congressman.

He recalled that in 1985, he launched the non-profit Kabalikat ng Bayan sa Kaunlaran (Kabaka) Foundation which has financed medical operations and scholarship grants for several poor but deserving Manila residents.

Kabaka has since grown to more than 100,000 members, most of them homemakers and young adults, he said.

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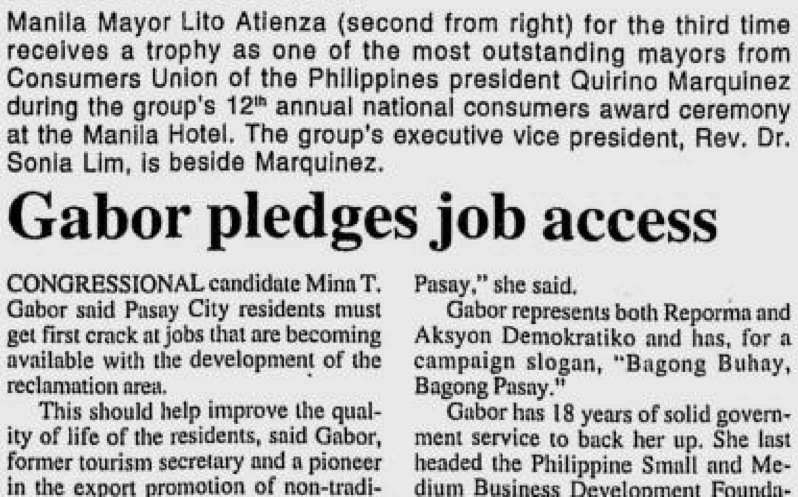
NICK ELMAN
PARA KONSEHAL

MANZANO IN MAKATI

Vice Mayor Edu Manzano, the People Power Coalition candidate for mayor of Makati City, presents his program of clean government before a large crowd during a recent campaign sortie. He vowed to introduce reforms that would erase graft in the Makati City Hall

TIANGCO POSTERS TORN DOWN

Navotas public order and safety officers brought Marcial Gatpo, Nestor Gallado, Ervin Narvaez, April Serajose and Edward Espinosa to the police station where the five were booked for malicious mischief for deliberately destroying the campaign posters of Mayor Toby Tiangco in Sipac, Navotas on Thursday. The suspects admitted that one of Tiangco's opponents hired them.



AWARD FOR ATIENZA

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza (second from right) for the third time receives a trophy as one of the most outstanding mayors from Consumers Union of the Philippines president Quirino Marquinez during the group's 12th annual national consumers award ceremony at the Manila Hotel. The group's executive vice president, Rev. Dr. Sonia Lim, is beside Marquinez.

Gabor pledges job access

CONGRESSIONAL candidate Minna T. Gabor said Pasay City residents must get first crack at jobs that are becoming available with the development of the reclamation area.

This should help improve the quality of life of the residents, said Gabor, former tourism secretary and a pioneer in the export promotion of non-traditional products.

Gabor also batted for the upgrading of skills and training for livelihood among the unemployed.

She said Pasay has two very different faces: One is of squalor where the urban poor subsist, and the other is of luxury where super structures like hotels, airports, international culture and trade centers give rise to the city's image as a progressive city.

Gabor hopes to reconcile the two different aspects of Pasay for the benefit of city residents.

"It is time for a new life and a new Pasay," she said.

Gabor represents both Reporma and Aksyon Demokratiko and has, for a campaign slogan, "Bagong Buhay, Bagong Pasay."

Gabor has 18 years of solid government service to back her up. She last headed the Philippine Small and Medium Business Development Foundation which assists small entrepreneurs in improving their businesses.

For her platform, Gabor has what she calls LIFE, which stands for Livelihood generation, Information technology training and development for the youth, Family centeredness through housing, nutrition and medical care, and Environment.

"How would you like to live in Pasay communities smelling like sampaguita?" asked Gabor, who vowed to push for Pasay an environment management, cleanliness and beautification programs, once she is in Congress.

Barbers behind Binay

THE ASSOCIATION of Makati Barbers is the latest addition to the growing list of organizations supporting the Performance Team in Makati led by Jejomar C. Binay.

The barbers' group joins big organizations like the Kapisanan sa Ikauunlad ng Inang Bayan (Kasanib) Foundation and the Batang Makati Movement which earlier declared their support for Binay, his running mate Ernesto Mercado and the entire Performance Team ticket in the first and second districts.

Kasanib Foundation is Makati's biggest non-government organization, with more than 70,000 members. The BMM, headed by former vice mayor Arturo "Toro" Yabut, counts about 35,000 supporters. Yabut is now the campaign manager of Mercado, a two-term city councilor.

"Both the common people of Makati and middle-class businessmen who make up these organizations recognize the concern shown by the Binay-Mercado team for their welfare and economic upliftment," said a PDP-Laban Makati statement.

Other groups supporting the Binay-Mercado team are the Makati Vendors Federation, the Makati Clubs, Restaurants and Entertainers Association, the Makati Karaoke and Music-Lounge Association, veterans' groups, and various jeepney and tricycle drivers and operators associations in Makati.

Fresnedi earns backing of businessmen

THE BUSINESS sector in Muntinlupa City has expressed confidence in the leadership of reelectionist Mayor Jaime Fresnedi.

Muntinlupa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) president Delia Jimenez, personnel manager of Adamson and Adamson, said the city government's business policies are very helpful to the chamber members in their dealings with the local government.

She cited the continuing Business One-Stop Shop (BOSS) system that has helped establishment owners in facilitating applications and the renewal of business permits.

Under the system, all departments concerned with the renewal of business permits are housed in one place, making it a lot easier for a business owner to get his papers.

Last year, 8,428 establishments in Muntinlupa secured business and mayor's permits, an increase of 27.33 percent from the 6,619 businesses registered in 1998.

Jimenez also cited the city government's establishment of the Muntinlupa Business Center last year in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Social Security System (SSS) and MCCI.

Muntinlupa businessmen need not got to the DTI main office in Makati to register their business name. At the Muntinlupa City Hall there is now the Online Business Name Registration wherein a computer is hooked up to the DTI main office. In a matter of minutes, a business owner can get his certificate of registration. Clearance for employers and forms for employees are also being issued at the SSS counter.

Overall, Jimenez said, the business owners "don't encounter any problem" with the Muntinlupa City government.

In 2000, Muntinlupa posted an income of P791,285,893.01, an increase of 41.4 percent from the 1998 income of P559,577,937.71.

Business taxes and fees in 2000 increased by 51.03 percent to P213,145,148.70 compared to the 1998 figures. Occupational permit collection for 2000 was P2,160,900 or an increase of 158.58 percent from P1,325,250 in 1998.

Amok in Sampaloc kills 10-year-old

A 10-YEAR-OLD girl was shot dead while three other people were wounded when an allegedly mentally ill man went amuck in Sampaloc, Manila, before dawn Friday.

The girl, Lonnerierue Bunag, a resident of 1346 Algeciras St., Sampaloc, died after Bernabe Arriola, of 1242 J. Marzan St., shot her in the abdomen with a shotgun.

Three of the girl's neighbors, who were with her when the shooting took place at the corner of Laong Laan and Prudencio streets, were injured. They were jeepney driver Bobby Ominga, 23, Edward Ramos, 22, and a 14-year-old boy.

SPO1 Ed Cabal said that the four and other neighbors were chatting or playing at the street corner when Arriola, who was armed with a homemade 12-gauge shotgun, came.

To the crowd's horror, Arriola aimed the shotgun at them and fired once, hitting the girl.

Police have yet to learn what provoked the shooting.

Ramos, Ominga and the 14-year-old boy were brought to the Santo Tomas University Hospital. Ramos was brought to the Jose Reyes Memorial hospital in Sta. Cruz.

Bunag died while undergoing surgery around 8:45 p.m., according to Alfred Lazala, the surgeon on duty.

Policemen arrested Arriola. Investigators said he will be subjected to a mental test.

They said he either uttered unintelligible words or kept very quiet whenever they tried to question him.

Jerome Aning

Malate stabbing suspect hunted

MANILA policemen are looking for the suspect in the stabbing of an unidentified man whose body was dumped in front of a construction firm in Malate, Manila late Saturday night.

Investigators said the victim was between 40 and 7, 5-foot-5, of medium build, fair and wearing a white polo shirt, light-gray shorts and brown shoes.

He was found at 11:40 p.m. Saturday sprawled in the gutter beside an acacia tree in front of the Philippine Iron Construction and Marine Works in Malate.

SPO1 Edgardo Ko of the Western Police District's homicide section learned that security guard Rodolfo Bataller, 45, said he heard dogs barking at the gate, which prompted him to look outside.

Bataller said he saw the bloodied victim on the street. He reported the incident to the nearby police community precinct on Sta. Monica Street.

Investigators learned that the victim was stabbed eight times in the chest. Several cuts on his right fingers indicated that he fought his assailants, police said.

Despite the stab wounds, no trace of blood was found under the victim's body. Instead, a pool of blood was seen one foot away from his head, Ko said.

Investigators were also looking into whether the victim was killed elsewhere and dumped where the body was found.

The body was taken to the Tres Amigos Funeral Parlor in Paco, Manila for autopsy.

Jerome Aning

Policemen helpless against drug gangs, says WPD official

By Jerome Aning

WELL-ENTRENCHED drug syndicates in the Islamic Center in Quiapo, Manila are hindering the efforts of the Western Police District to solve the gruesome murders of several women, whose bodies were thrown into the nearby Estero de Quiapo and Estero de San Miguel.

Fear of the syndicates has also kept residents from cooperating with the police, particularly residents who might have witnessed the summary executions and the dumping of the bodies.

In a span of only nine months, the two murky *esteros* have earned the dubious distinction of being the "twin creeks of death," where the bodies of women liquidated for allegedly offending drug syndicates in Manila's Muslim quarter are disposed.

"The syndicates are well-entrenched in the area, and the people are quite reluctant to cooperate and give testimony to our investigators," WPD homicide section head, Chief Insp. Juanito Taluban, told the INQUIRER.

Taluban said the area is so populated that it is impossible that residents did not hear or see anything related to the executions.

Before they became the dumping ground for female salvage victims, the Estero de San Miguel and the Estero de Quiapo were ordinary, fly-infested and sewarage-polluted branches of the Pasig River.

The two *esteros* pass through the densely populated Islamic Center and merge near Carlos Palanca Street before emptying into the Pasig River. Near the confluence stands a pumping station operated by the Department of Public Works and Highways.

The station's silt conveyors produce an artificial current that draws water plants, garbage and corpses out of the water.

The corpses so far fished out of the creeks—two from the Estero de Quiapo and three from the Estero de San Miguel—bore marks of torture and other external injuries. Each new body's injuries seem more gruesome than those of the one recovered before it. The women were believed to have been strangled.

The disposal of the body of the sixth victim, who was identified as Charito de Leon-Rivera, 26, a resident of Signal Village, Lower Bicutaan, Taguig, was the most grisly: Her head and limb were lopped off and her torso was chopped into three parts.

Rivera's sisters Divina and Pinky told police that Rivera went back to Quiapo on April 17 to seek an audience with the syndicate leaders who were angry at her for her failure to remit proceeds from drug sales worth P50,000.

Rivera was peddling drugs being supplied by the syndicate, her sisters said.

On April 19, a plastic garbage bag and a cardboard box containing her dismembered body parts were found floating along Estero de San Miguel.

"What she did probably made the syndicate very angry," said Taluban. "The dismembering of her body was probably intended to teach others like her a lesson."

The first corpse, which floated on Sept. 20 in the Estero de Quiapo, belonged to Susan Nidal, between 20 and 25 years old. Her body was placed inside a plastic sack, with her hands and body tied with electric wire.

The next body was that of Josephine Lim, a resident of Old Sta. Mesa, who was hogtied with a nylon rope and who was found floating in the same *estero* on Nov. 15.

On Nov. 25, the body of Akrima Landasan, 27, alias Princess, a resident of Maharlika Village, Taguig, was found floating in the same *estero*. Her head was covered with a pillow case and a long shoelace was tied around her neck.

The body of another woman floated in the Estero de San Miguel on Jan. 9, followed by another body the following day in Estero de Quiapo. Police believe that the two still unidentified victims were killed at the same time.

The first woman was 30 to 35 years old, dark-complexioned, 5-foot-5, chubby built and sporting a short haircut. An electric wire was wound around her neck and her head was covered with a black jacket.

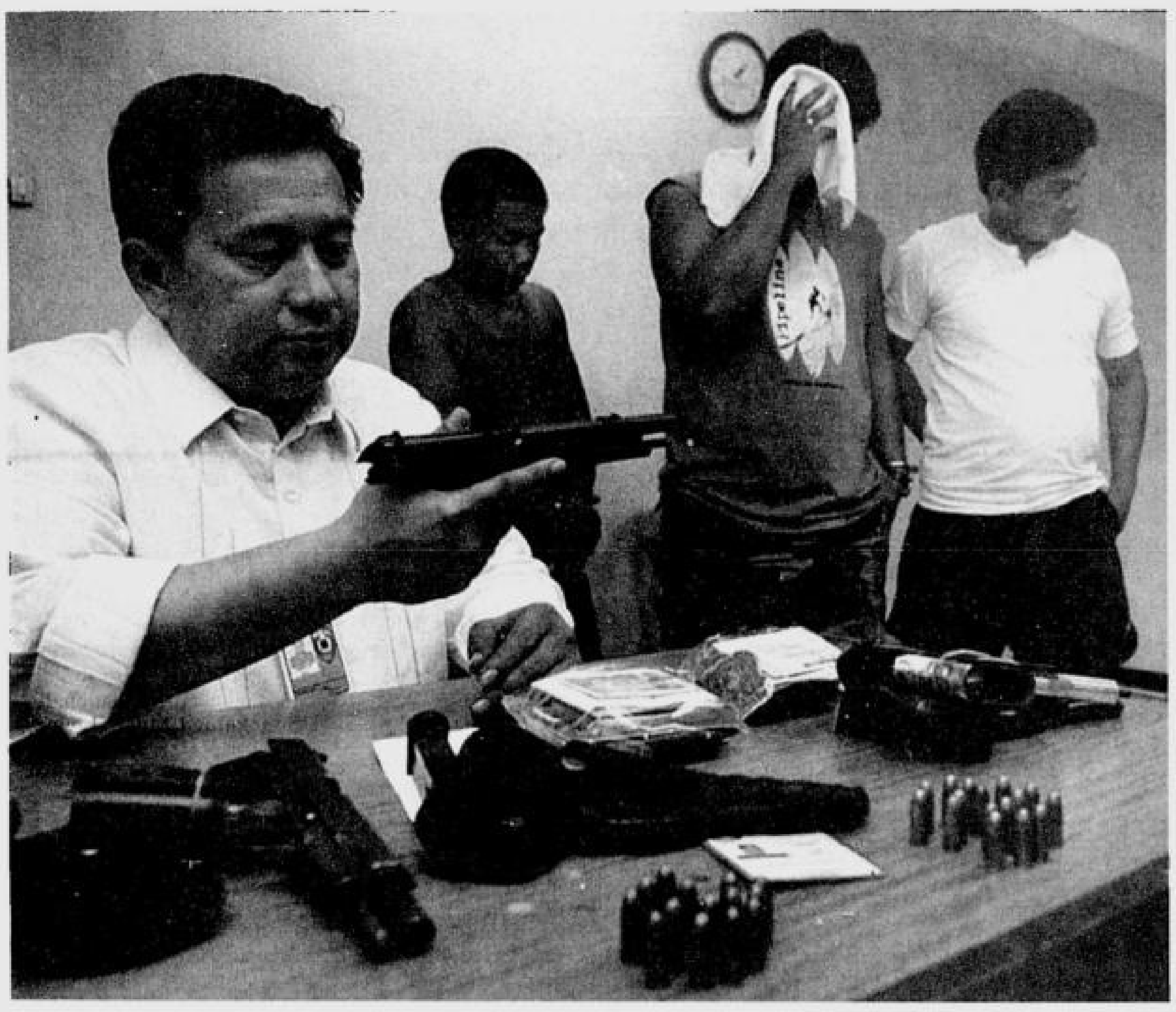
The second victim was 25 to 30 years old and medium-built. A yellow nylon cord was tied around her neck.

"If the offense committed by these women were a simple matter, then the killers should have been satisfied with just shooting or stabbing them to death," Taluban said.

He said the killings could have been done by more than one syndicate. Maybe, he said, the women sought employment from rival drug syndicates and got caught.

"What they don't know is that when they cheat or double-cross their employers, such as by turning over their group's drug cache to the rival group, they would ultimately be tracked down and swiftly and mercilessly punished," Taluban said.

But as long as Manila police fail to eliminate the drug syndicates in the Islamic Center, the killers and their motives will remain lost in the WPD's files of unsolved cases.



MAJOR Ferdinand Ampil, chief of the WPD intelligence unit, inspects the guns and bullets seized from suspects (background) PO3 Daludado, PO1 Ofilan and Asilo. RANDY HORMILLOSA

3 cops nabbed for robbing . . .

(From page A21)

The gunbattle took place at about 8 p.m. in front of the Sto. Domingo Church on Quezon Avenue in Quezon City.

Santarinala was wounded in the exchange, police said.

After the smoke cleared 15 minutes later, all four suspects were taken into custody while Fragas was set free, according to WPD officials.

In a complaint filed with the WPD Intelligence unit, Angelita Fragas, 21, and her brother Niño, 23, both residents of 4 Laurel Street, Tondo, Manila, claimed that the suspects busted Niño and his elder sister Imelda in their own house, allegedly for drug pushing.

The complainants said the suspects searched their house and took the P10,000 they kept inside a pillow case. Niño and Imelda said that after the suspects collared them, they all went out and had lunch at a Kentucky Fried Chicken outlet on Tayuman, using the money.

After lunch, the suspects took the victims to a place near the Sto. Domingo Church. The lawmen let go of Niño and instructed him to collect P50,000 for Imelda's release.

When Niño got home at 3 p.m., he and Angelita went straight to the WPD Intelligence Unit and sought the help of Chief Insp. Ferdinand Ampil, who planned an entrapment.

The WPD team announced the arrests when PO1 Ofilan and his cohorts received the marked money from Niño.

After the gunfight, the WPD team seized the suspects' service firearms, five hand-held radios and the marked money used in the operation.

SPO1 Santarinala is now under guard at the Philippine Orthopedic Center where he was taken for treatment of his wound. The three other suspects have been charged with robbery, extortion and violation of the Commission on Elections' gun ban.

Ampil said he and his men were trying to determine whether to add kidnapping to the charges filed against the suspects. *With Myla Torres and Jeusa Raflores*

White-collar worker among Tower awardees

THE WINNERS of the Rotary Club of Manila Tower Awards 2001 include a white-collar worker for the first time in the history of the awards.

This was announced by Gert Gust, chair of the Rotary Club of Manila Tower Awards committee.

The seven winners are from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, all outstanding achievers in their respective fields.

President-elect Ed Tumangan, who is also director-in-charge of the awards, said that among the winners are government employees and a white-collar worker, a new category introduced in the awards this year.

Three female rank-and-file workers also made it to the finals, he said.

The awardees are Leopoldo G. Salcedo of the Department of Agriculture, Ranulfo Alfornon of Philippine Phosphate Fertilizer Corp., Miguel Rosas of Star Motor Manufacturing Industries, Eliezer Tupas of Coca-Cola Bottlers-Davao, Gregorio Pulla of Coats Manila Bay Inc., Jerrybel Serquina of Manila Water Co. and Roel Pagulayan of Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp.

At the awarding rites on May 3 at the Manila Hotel, each winner will receive a trophy, a cash prize, a baccalaureate degree, and full scholarship which is transferable to the awardee's children.

The board of judges includes Tumangan, chair; and members Nestor Sevilla, Fortunato Gupit Jr., Fred Tejada, Victorico Vargas, Tizianela Reyes of the Civil Service Commission, and Alain Pelce of the International Labor Organization.

The screening committee members are Romy del Rosario, Fred Tejada and Ben Magnaye.

Convention

THE PHILIPPINE Dental Association (PDA) will still hold its 93rd annual scientific session at the PICC and the World Trade Center along Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City, April 30-May 5, 2001.

International lecturers are flying in for the convention.

The trade exhibits will again be held at the World Trade Center. The trade exhibits chair, Dr. Vic Abastillas, said air-conditioned buses will ferry the delegates between the two venues every 15 minutes.

Fellowship night will be tomorrow, Monday. The election of PDA officers will be on May 2.

This year's convention theme is "Professional Excellence in the 21st Century."

For details, call the PDA Secretariat at 890-4609 or 897-8091 or visit their websites at www.mydentista.com and www.pda.org.ph.

Businessman loses ₱1.5M to 'salisi' gang in QC

By Philip C. Tubeza

BUSINESSMAN Jason U. Ching lost P1.5 million in valuables after a "*salisi* gang" member duped his housemaid into letting the suspect into his house in Quezon City on Friday.

Ching, 34, of Tagaboc Street, Barangay Sienna, Quezon City, and his family were not home when an unidentified man tricked Ching's housemaid Noemi A. Cantamayor, 19, said the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

The victim lost three Rolex watches, a Nokia 6210 cellular phone and several pieces of jewelry all worth P1.5 million, police said.

Cantamayor told investigators that at about 3 p.m. on Friday, a man appeared outside the Ching residence and asked where Ching was.

She said the man introduced himself as Ching's relative. Because the man appeared so convincing, Cantamayor let him into the house.

She said she had no inkling of the suspect's criminal intent when he gave her P100 to buy some food, supposedly for their snack.

Police said Cantamayor took the money and left the house to buy *merienda* at a nearby convenience store.

While the housemaid was away, the suspect ransacked the master bedroom. When Cantamayor arrived, she was shocked to find the master bedroom looted and the man gone.

The CPD Scene of the Crime Operations (Soco) team was trying to find out if the suspect had left fingerprints at the crime scene.

The mascot is a Math teacher

(From page A21)

SALAMAT is grateful for his other job. VAL HANDUMON

wearers also have to prance, dance, wave and shake hands with people in the arena.

They are the PBA team mascots. They are court jesters, paid to bring cheer to the professional basketball hardcourt.

"It's a tough job, physically, because you have to deal with the costume and the people around you," says Reynaldo Salamat Jr., 42, who wears the costume of the Shell Velocity mascot.

What he is wearing now—which makes him look like a cross between a race car driver and a kiddie astronaut—is actually a better costume than what he used to put on.

"My previous costume was an entire gas tank," says Salamat of his old Shell mascot get-up, which also covered him from head to knees.

Other mascots have to endure similar hardships like him, particularly the Batang Red Bull guy who is enclosed in a giant Red Bull bottle which he has to shake vigorously to the accompaniment of music playing at halftime.

Probably the best-looking mascot is that of Alaska Milk. Dressed as a cow standing upright and wearing sunglasses, the wearer can freely move around inside his thickly padded suit.

"That's why he's the best basketball player among us mascots," says Salamat.

So how does it feel to be inside that costume?

"The good thing about it is that it gives you a feeling of anonymity," says Salamat who, unlike most PBA mascots, has a day job. Salamat is a high school math teacher at the Rizal National High School.

"The subject I teach is serious," he says. "So I find a way to loosen up here in the games."

Salamat started as a member of the Turbochargers fans club in 1996. In 1998, when the old mascot retired, he volunteered for the job.

His wife Normita, a seamstress, and daughter Mona Raizza, 13, live in Binangonan, Rizal. He drives a private jeep.

His neighbors only learned of his other job when he hung his costume to dry in their yard.

"It's as though I'm also a celebrity and as popular as the basketball players themselves," says Salamat, who has forged friendships with the entire Shell lineup and coaching staff.

He singles out Shell guards Gerry Esplana and Jun Marzan as his closest pals in the team. He says they are the most generous and treat him with respect.

The going rate for mascots is P600 per gig, which involves appearing on the hardcourt before the start of the game when the barker calls out the starting five.

The mascots return during halftime while the players have a shootaround. The mascots also throw giveaways at the crowd.

Some mascots stay until the game is over.

"I stay around till the end because every time we win, there's a blowout for everybody," says Salamat, who consults his daughter for the dance movements that he uses on the hardcourt.

During breaks, mascots gather and talk about their lives outside their mascot job.

"I'm very fortunate to have a good relationship with the team," Salamat says.

He says he doesn't provoke members of other teams, unlike the Red Bull mascot, who taunted burly slot man Ali Peek, who retaliated by tripping the mascot.

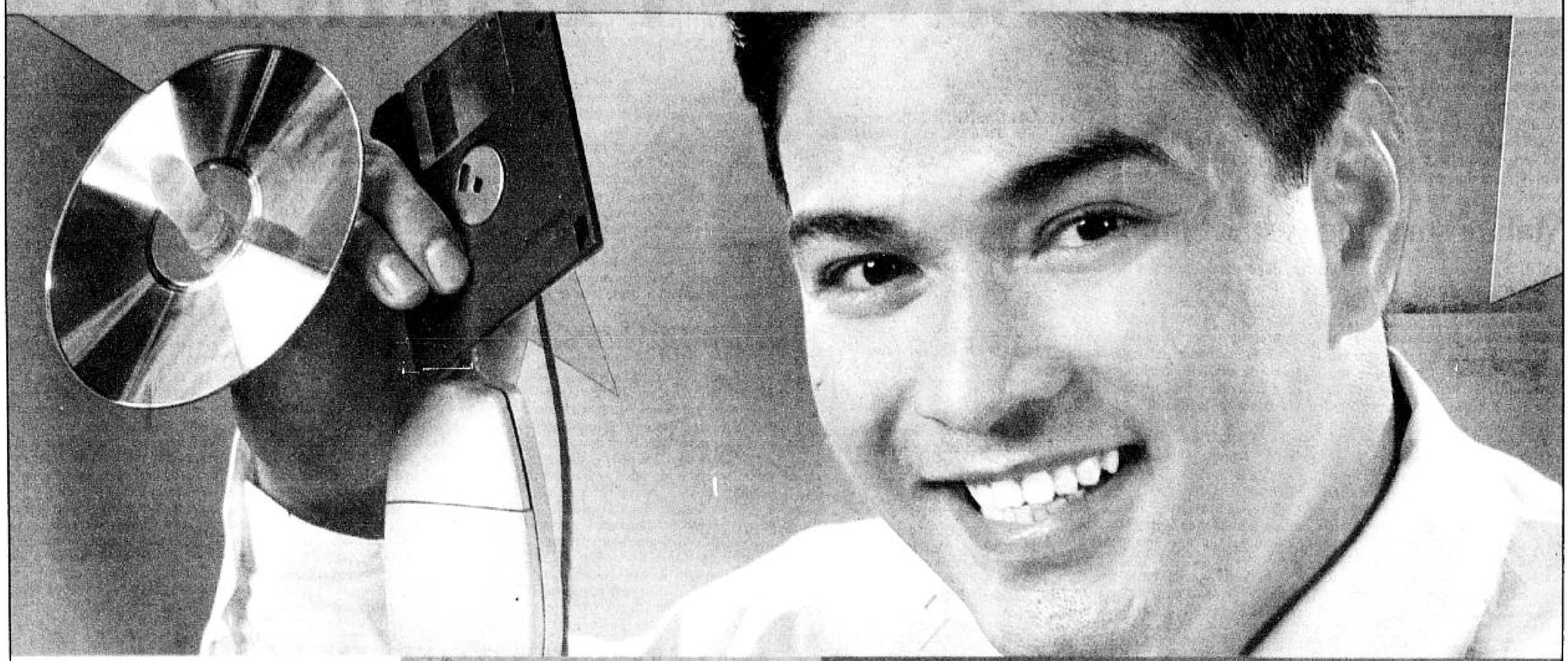
Because the Red Bull mascot was wearing a big, foam bottle that covered his knees, he fell on the court and had to struggle to get up. He had to be assisted by another Red Bull mascot who was wearing a giant Agfa Color film case.

It was a hilarious scene for the audience but not for the man inside the Red Bull costume.

"We don't want that to happen again," says Salamat, who plans to organize an association of PBA mascots.

"All in all, a mascot's life is fulfilling, considering that you get to be close to your favorite players while earning extra money at the same time," he says.

ANG DAMI NAMANG TRABAHO!



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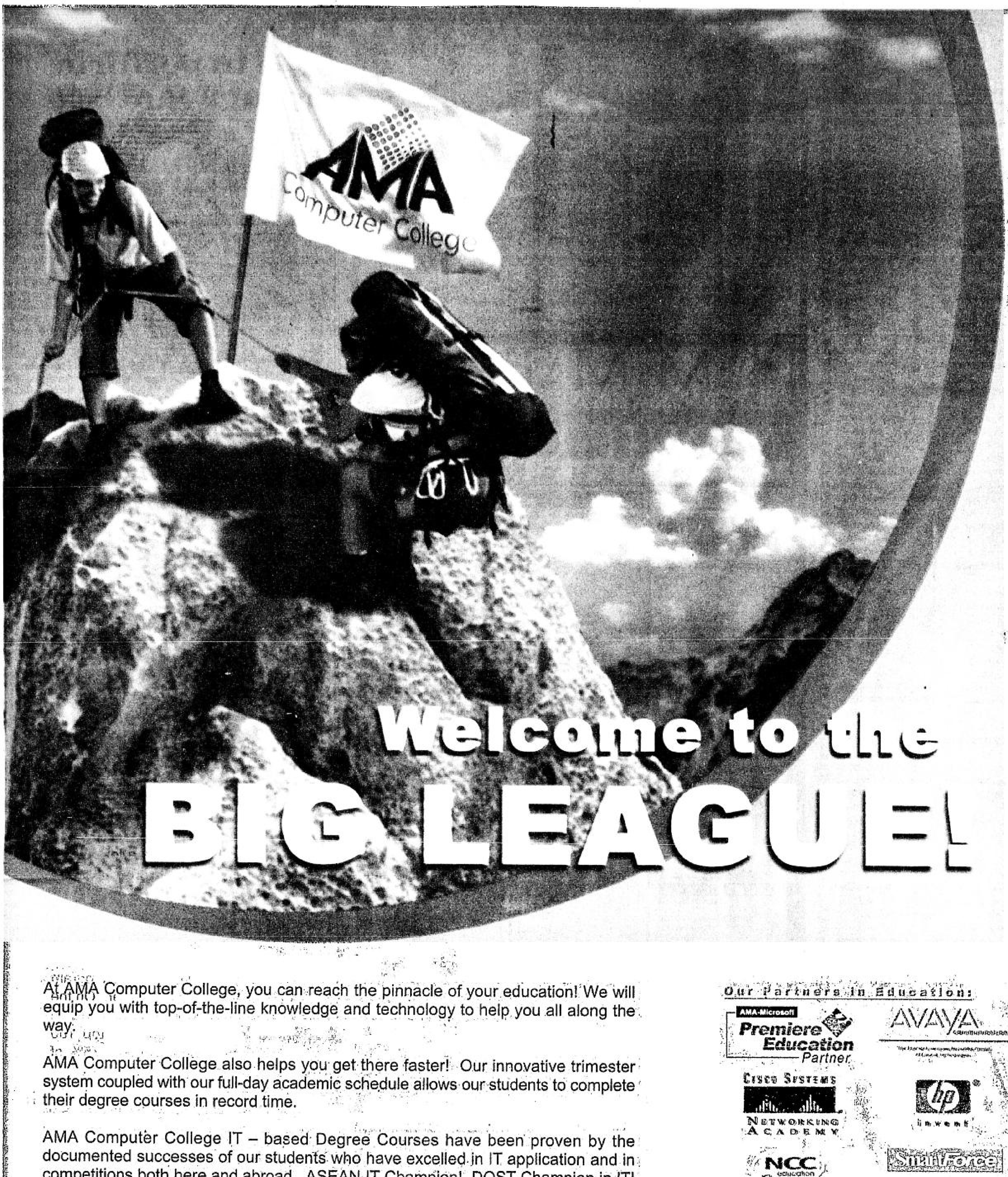

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6	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	XTREME WARRIORS
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
9	DOLBY SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
10	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SWEET NOVEMBER
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	ANTI-TRUST

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	DOLBY SURROUND	RUGRATS IN PARIS
2	DOLBY SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
4	DOLBY SURROUND	ABAKADA...INA
5	DOLBY SURROUND	SWEET NOVEMBER
6	DOLBY SURROUND	ANTI-TRUST
7	DTS	THE MEXICAN
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	3000 MILES TO GRACELAND
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE CROW
10	DOLBY SURROUND	XTREME WARRIORS
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
12	DOLBY SURROUND	AIR BUD 3

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1	ULTRA SURROUND	ANTI-TRUST
2	ULTRA SURROUND	ABAKADA...INA
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	SWEET NOVEMBER
4	ULTRA SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
5	ULTRA SURROUND	XTREME WARRIORS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	RUGRATS IN PARIS
7	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE MEXICAN
9	ULTRA SURROUND	AIR BUD 3
10	ULTRA SURROUND	THE CROW

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1	ULTRA SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	ABAKADA ... INA

SM CEBU 2313876

1	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
2	ULTRA SURROUND	DOUBLE TAKE
3	ULTRA SURROUND	SAVE THE LAST DANCE
4	ULTRA SURROUND	WEDDING PLANNER
5	ULTRA SURROUND	RUGRATS IN PARIS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
7	DOLBY SURROUND	

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1	ULTRA SURROUND	BILLY ELLIOT
2	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
3	ULTRA SURROUND	DOUBLE TAKE
4	ULTRA SURROUND	SAVE THE LAST DANCE
5	ULTRA SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
6	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
7	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
8	ULTRA SURROUND	THE GIFT

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4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	ABAKADA...INA
5	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	MADERASO
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2 THE MEXICAN in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
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4 BLACK & WHITE (Phil. Premiere) in DTS DIGITAL SOUND Art Film
5 DOUBLE TAKE in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6 SWEET NOVEMBER in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
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4 Onstage

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2 ANTI-TRUST in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
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4 RUGRATS IN PARIS in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
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4 GOLD (DTS) SWEET NOVEMBER
5 GOLD (DOLBY) RUGRATS IN PARIS
6 GOLD (SDDS) NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
7 GOLD (DOLBY) THE MEXICAN
8 [illegible] ANTI-TRUST
9 [illegible] NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
10 [illegible] ABAKADA INA

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
2 X TREME WARRIOR
3 (DTS) CLOSED
4 INIT NG DUGO
5 ATTACK FORCE
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
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1 (DOLBY) RESERVE
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3 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST

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3 3000 MILES TO GRACELAND
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A X TREME WARRIOR

JC Cinema
(Parañaque) tel 825.8626
1
3

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City
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2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 ATTACK FORCE
5 THE CROW
6 X TREME WARRIOR
7 (DTS) THE MEXICAN
8 (SDDS) SWEET NOVEMBER
9 (DOLBY) 3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND

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3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE
5
6

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7 (DTS) THE MEXICAN
8 RESERVE
9 RESERVE

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4 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
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8 MADERAZO

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Baclaran LRT Cinema
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2 X TREME WARRIOR
3 MADERAZO

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
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3 (DTS) THE MEXICAN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
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4 THE SEDUCER

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3 THE SEDUCER
4 AIR BUD 3

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Ogie to perform in San Francisco

POP singer Ogie Alcasid continues to go on a winning streak. He won the best movie theme song Award from the Famas for his composition, "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw," the theme from the movie of the same title which starred Regine Velasquez and Robin Padilla.

Earlier on, Ogie won the Star Awards for movie theme song of the year for the same song.

The awards are certainly a big boost to Ogie's latest album, "Movie Moments," a compilation of classic movie theme songs.

The new album comes with free minus one and continues to do well in the market. In fact, it has soared to the number two spot in the over-all top 25 best-selling charts of all Tower Records outlets.

"Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw," the first single off the MCA-Universal album, continues to dominate the airwaves.

After shows in New Jersey and Illinois, Ogie will perform in San Francisco, California today, April 29.

He is also slated to do a concert in Australia sometime in May.

ALCASID

Delightful . . .

(From page A27)

"'Free Willy'—Manila City Hall employees and officials are in for a whale of a surprise when, one flooded morning, they go to work and find this *balyena* swimming in Lagusnilad.

"'Leap of Faith'—in a religious country, anybody can be a superstar. Dramatically set in Agoo, La Union.

"'Forever Young'—the story of a politician who finds the fountain of youth. He is transformed into a gorgeous hunk, and he has many wives afterward.

"'Home Alone'—see what happens when the president leaves for the United States and the National Security Adviser is left behind to take care of business.

"'Secret Garden'—a politician officially moves for a total log ban, but keeps a secret garden where he cuts the trees.

"'Alive'—survivors of a plane crash are made up of both pro-Erap and anti-Erap stalwarts." (*To be concluded*).

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	ANTI-TRUST
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	THE CROW
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	SWEERT NOVEMBER
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VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

AT FIRST, the decision to get **Aga Muhlach** and **Joyce Jimenez in Joey Reyes'** "Narinig Mo Na Ba ang L8est" seems to be an ungainly idea. After all, Aga is Mr. For General Patronage himself, while Joyce is definitely Ms R-18—and sometimes, even more.

Combine Mr. Cool and Ms Hot and you could get—lukewarm?

Happily, the finished film is definitely not neither here nor there. Reyes effectively and entertainingly brings out the best in both his leads, and the movie makes the Aga-Joyce team-up the liveliest and most appealing stellar combination since the **Regine Velasquez-Robin Padilla** tandem in "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw."

In the movie, Aga plays an advertising guy who is so nice and conservative that people think he's gay. For her part, Joyce is an artist who is rumored to go from one bed to another with the alacrity of a spaced-out Goldilocks on uppers.

These two extreme opposites dislike each other at first but learn to understand one another when they are put on the same team that is charged with coming up with a brilliant ad campaign that will make their agency clinch a P400-M account.

At first, Joyce is a turn-off because she speaks Filipino badly. While the movie rationalizes this by making her a *balikbayan*, her diction errors are grating.

After a while, however, we see that she's trying hard to do better, and we find her effort, if not all-out admirable, at least an indication that she isn't just trying to get by on sex appeal and chutzpa in this production.

Even better, she turns in an interesting and felt characterization of a free spirit whose ebullience and openness are misinterpreted by others as sexual promiscuity.

Aga also does some of his best romantic-comedy work in this movie, his touch deft and light, his comic timing both precise and natural.

But the best thing about the performances in this film is the combination of Aga and Joyce, because they affect each other in interesting ways. Aga's experience as an actor gives Joyce a strong center to depend on, while Joyce's ebullience makes Aga come up with a younger and fresher performance.

Aside from the Aga-Joyce romance, the movie is also interested in making sense of popular Filipino activities like texting and gossip. As the two misunderstood lead characters try to see where their developing relationship will lead them, many malicious people try to do them in, both individually and as a couple.

This is done humorously, of course, but the jokes occasionally draw blood, reminding us that our penchant for spreading unfounded rumors can psychologically maim their targets.

On the debit side, the movie is too lightweight for its own good, particularly in the scenes where Joyce catches Aga lying about their "trysts" to prove himself macho. On the whole, however, the film is delightfully brisk, perceptive and on-target.

We're particularly glad that Joyce's performance here works well, because this can further convince her to shift from the really bold movies she used to do, to less exploitative and more creatively rewarding movies like this.

By being obliged to keep her clothes on in this production, Joyce has had to work hard to reveal her acting talent instead, and everyone's better off for it.

Feedback

FROM **Ednel Almoradie** of Cavite City: "For a change, I would like to give my list of movies in which I've changed the story but still use the original titles, based on my views on current events:

DELIGHTFUL/A26

OPENS MAY 1
MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
Welcome to Her Wet, Wet World!!!!
CARLOS MORALES
ISABEL GRANADA
halik ng Sirena
GERALD MADRID
PINKY AMADOR
ANITA LINDA
RICHARD QUAN
ROBERT AVILES
BIANCA LAPUZ
Written & Directed By JOVEN MUNAR TAN
A REGAL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTATION

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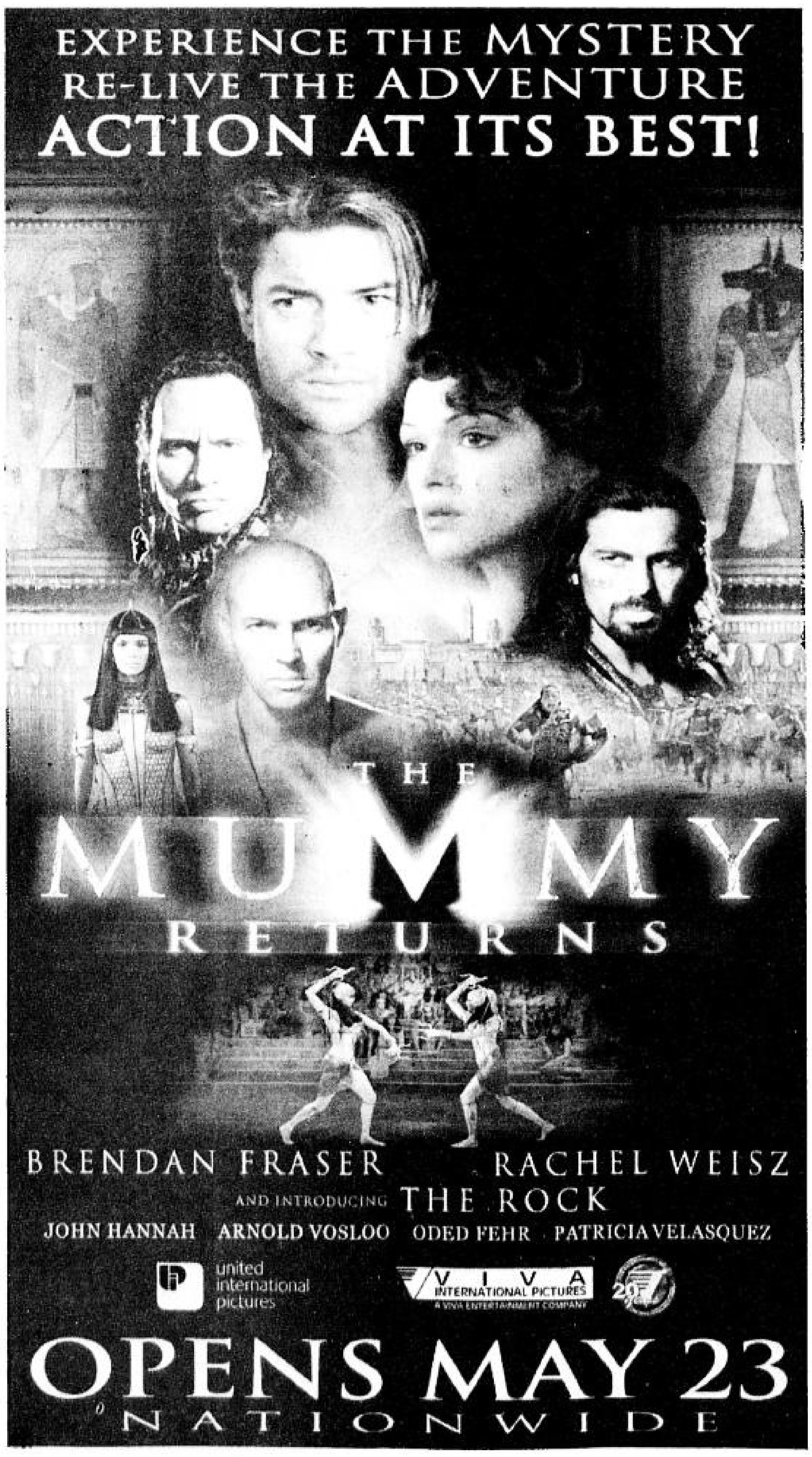
PG-13
CYNTHIA LUSTER
XTREME WARRIORS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RE-LIVE THE ADVENTURE
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THE MUMMY RETURNS
BRENDAN FRASER
RACHEL WEISZ
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JOHN HANNAH
ARNOLD VOSLOO
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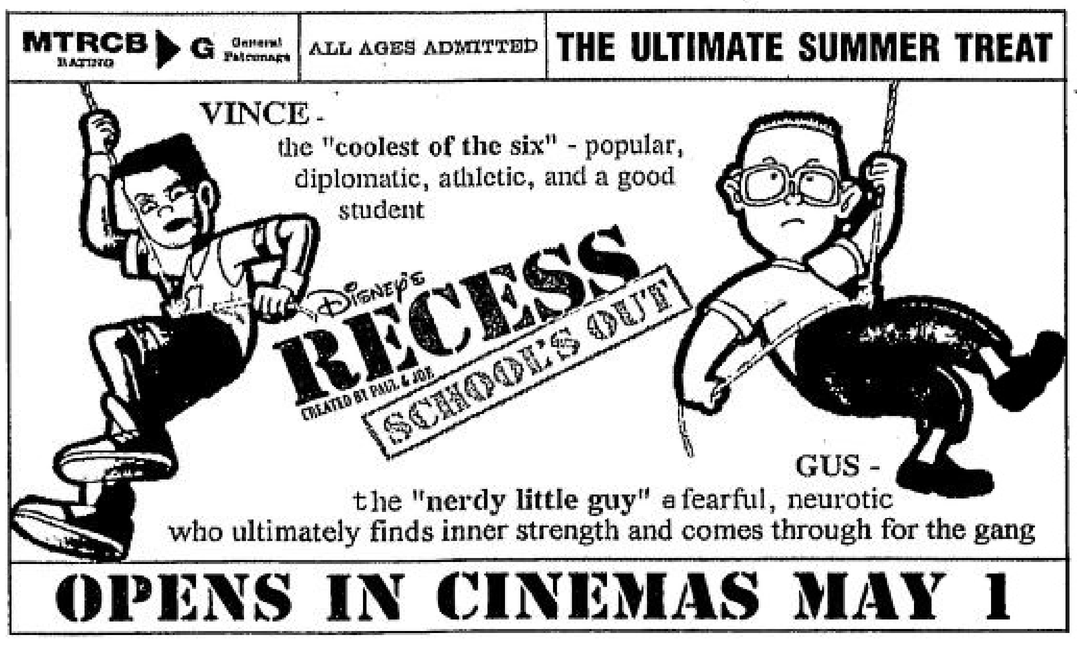
PATRICIA VELASQUEZ
united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES
A VIVA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY
OPENS MAY 23
NATIONWIDE


MTRCB RATING G General Patronage
ALL AGES ADMITTED
THE ULTIMATE SUMMER TREAT
VINCE - the "coolest of the six" - popular, diplomatic, athletic, and a good student
Disney's RECESS SCHOOL'S OUT
CREATED BY PAUL & JOE
GUS - the "nerdy little guy" a fearful, neurotic who ultimately finds inner strength and comes through for the gang
OPENS IN CINEMAS MAY 1

AYALA CINEMAS
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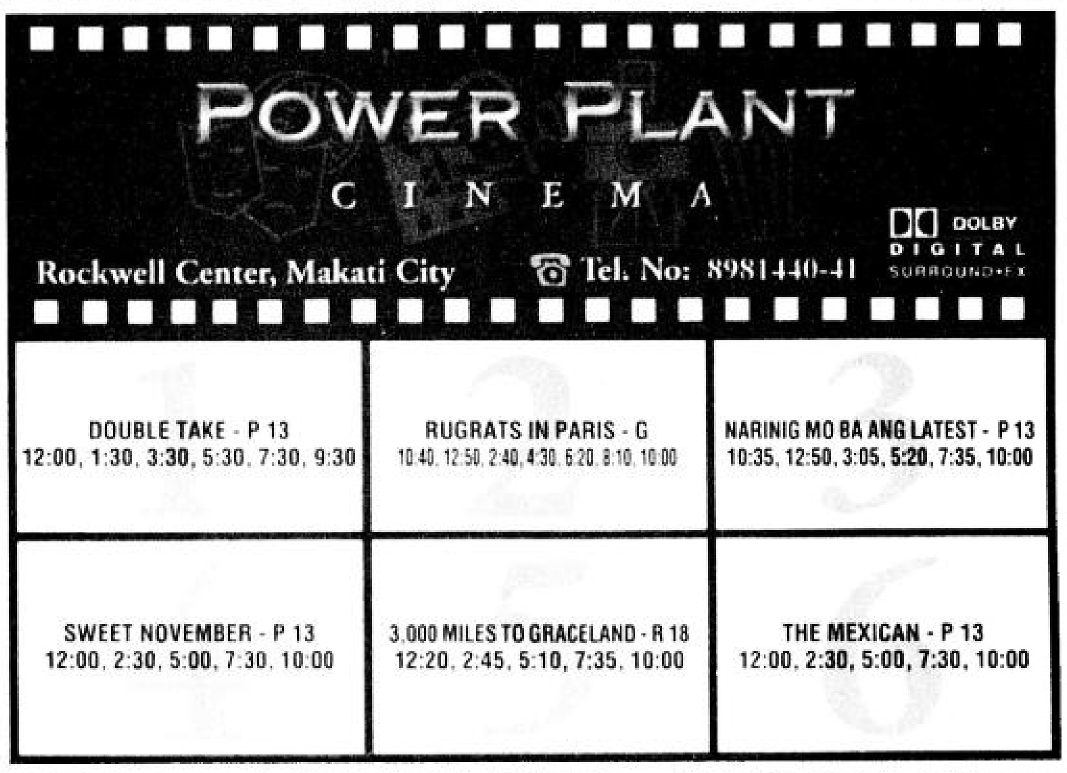
A rookie cop gets assigned to a tough, sexy female partner who is legendary for her violent, but effective, ways. While on an extremely tough serial killer case, the pair begin a passionate affair. Before long, the rookie gets evidence that his partner, and lover, may actually be behind the string of grisly murders.
STARRING
GINA GERSHON & RON SILVER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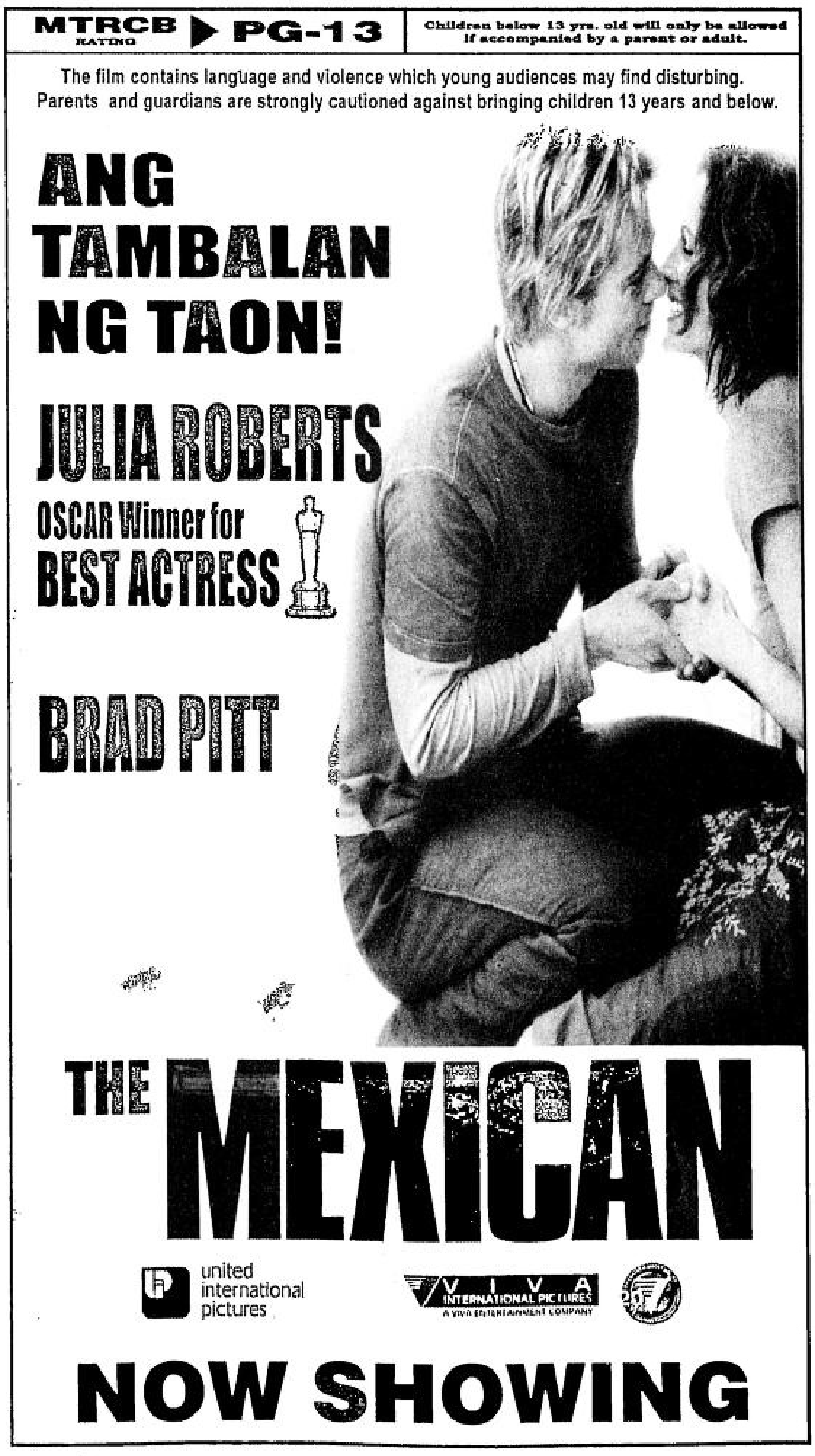
12:00, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
2
RUGRATS IN PARIS - G
10:40, 12:50, 2:40, 4:30, 6:20, 8:10, 10:00
3
NARINIG MO BA ANG LATEST - P 13
10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 10:00
4
SWEET NOVEMBER - P 13
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
5
3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND - R 18
12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
6
THE MEXICAN - P 13
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00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BRAD PITT
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ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

'THE MEXICAN'

Brad and Julia having fun

BY EMMIE G. VELARDE

REVIEW

FABLE and farce in a package was a jolly find for our movie-going trio of ages 13 to 50. The range, may I point out, covers nearly three generations. That we chuckled in unison more than a few hundred times makes "The Mexican," for me, as hot as chili tamale.

The movie has the cooling effect of witless humor unleashed by a screwball joke that runs for approximately two hours. No need to think; what joy on a summer day!

But first the viewer should find the courage to ignore early reviews. The kindest phrase the Internet has coughed up, for instance, is "pointless but fun." Which seems to say pointless is not always fun, or that fun is not always pointless.

That is correct, but . . . I don't know where to take this theory. Exactly the mood of Director Gore Verbinski's film, a worthy follow-up to "Mouse Hunt:" defy logic and live.

Fortunately, there isn't time for rumination, as one misfortune after another befalls Jerry, gorgeous dimwit and reluctant goodfella out on one last make-or-break job. He is instructed, under pain of eternal misery or immediate death, to secure an antique pistol from Mexico, which proves easy. But he has to bring the pistol back to America, and this part of the errand is woefully cursed, even if it were being run by someone much smarter.

On exactly the same day, Jerry is given an ultimatum, as well, by his girlfriend: "Quit the mob or lose me." Poor Jerry reads the situation correctly for once: Alive and in trouble with Sam is better than alive without eyes and limbs, or just plain dead.

Brad Pitt has apparently taken a vow never again to look clean and combed onscreen, for as long as his devastating good looks continue to work against due recognition of his acting skills. Did you see his face under all that hair and grime in "Fight Club" or "Snatch?" Once in a while he strikes back at the critics' empire by taking on roles like this one, as though to say, "Suit yourself, folks. I'm just gonna have fun, and make another twenty million dollars."

Which would be Julia Roberts' line, too, if she hadn't bagged an Oscar at last for "Erin Brokovich."

As Sam, Jerry's hundred-words-a-minute maid, Julia is a gas, and she breezes through the role, you can imagine. The best-looking couple south of the border doesn't even have to work at relating; they have such few scenes together!

I suspect this is deliberate. Two or three more scenes and the writers would have run out of lines for that machine-gun mouth.

Only Jerry brings out this quality, by the way. Sam is perfectly capable of being introspective, insightful, and *quiet* in the company of a less cursed man, even if he is an assassin sent to take her hostage, like the gay Leroy, another nut in this bowl-full.

ROBERTS

Leroy is played flawlessly by James Gandolfini. Let me illustrate: If I were Sam, and I had the luxury of thinking long and hard about the situation, I'd have turned my back forever on the terribly cute but bugged Jerry and run away with silent, sensitive Leroy.

I lie.

Jerry is a magnet for mishap. He makes 12 disasters out of 10 chores, and can dominate none but a rabid dog. He cannot speak one sentence in straight Spanish to save his life. He makes Tom Hanks in "Money Pit" and Nathan Lane in "Mouse Hunt" look like lottery winners. He brings Sam to an amorous plane only for the precise length of time that they're in bed.

But in the end, when he passes Sam's one-question, answer-all test of commitment in half a second, earnest blue eyes unblinking, he looks so disarmingly much like Tristan in "Legends of the Fall," it is difficult to not hate his real-life wife Jennifer Aniston. Or to not recall Dustin Hoffman's observation when they made "Sleepers" together: "Next to that kid Brad, we all look like onions."

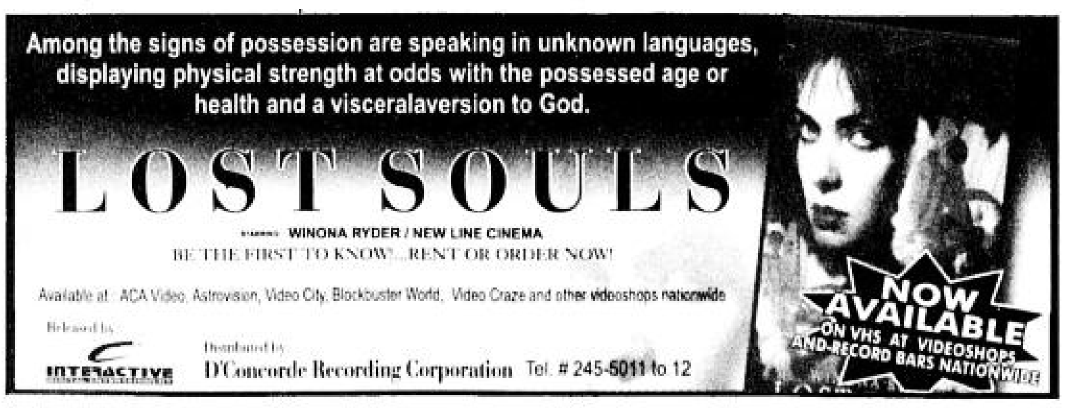
Outside of Pitt, Roberts, and the main storyline that is baffling enough in its, yes, pointlessness, "The Mexican" has three other ingredients that should keep the cinemas full: Gandolfini putting such a spin on his TV persona Tony Soprano, Real de Catorce in Mexico (photographed with much affection), and the parallel story of the antique pistol that sports the film's title.

One frame that is particularly touching and therefore out of character, and therefore outstanding, is of Leroy pensively watching Sam, his captive, and Frank, his conquest, asleep like two children left in his care.

The convoluted story of the pistol, though not to be taken seriously, is rendered with a straight-faced sobriety that borders on the solemn—which makes it the best gag of all.

However, the way Jerry is made gringo loco by the locals, from the minute he sets foot in the land of Speedy Gonzalez and Lupita Jones, sounds sooo familiar, it generates the swiftest reactions from the viewers.

In one such scene, some drunks call him Robert de Niro. Anyone in Manila would have nailed it in a sec.


Among the signs of possession are speaking in unknown languages, displaying physical strength at odds with the possessed age or health and a visceralaversion to God.

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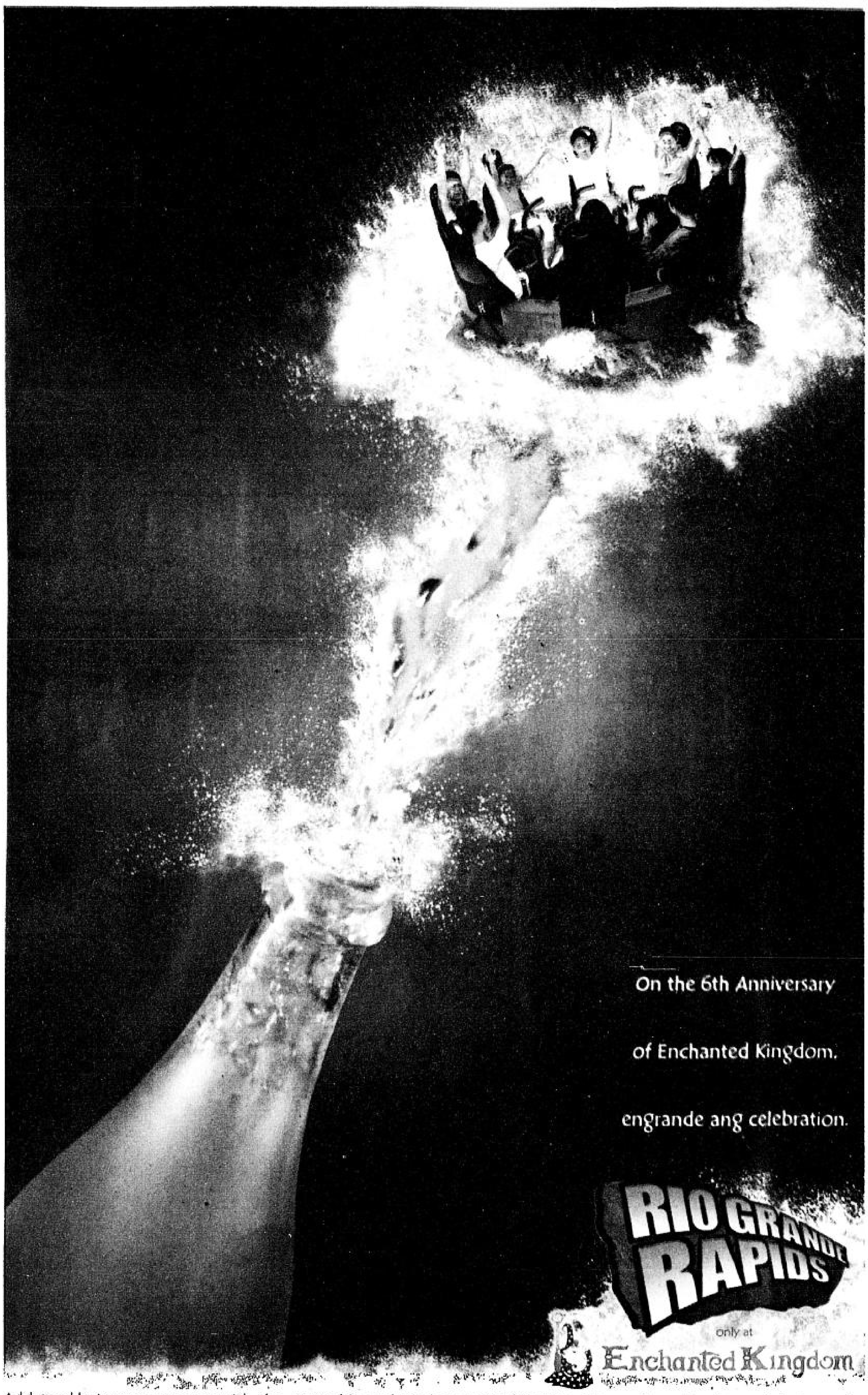

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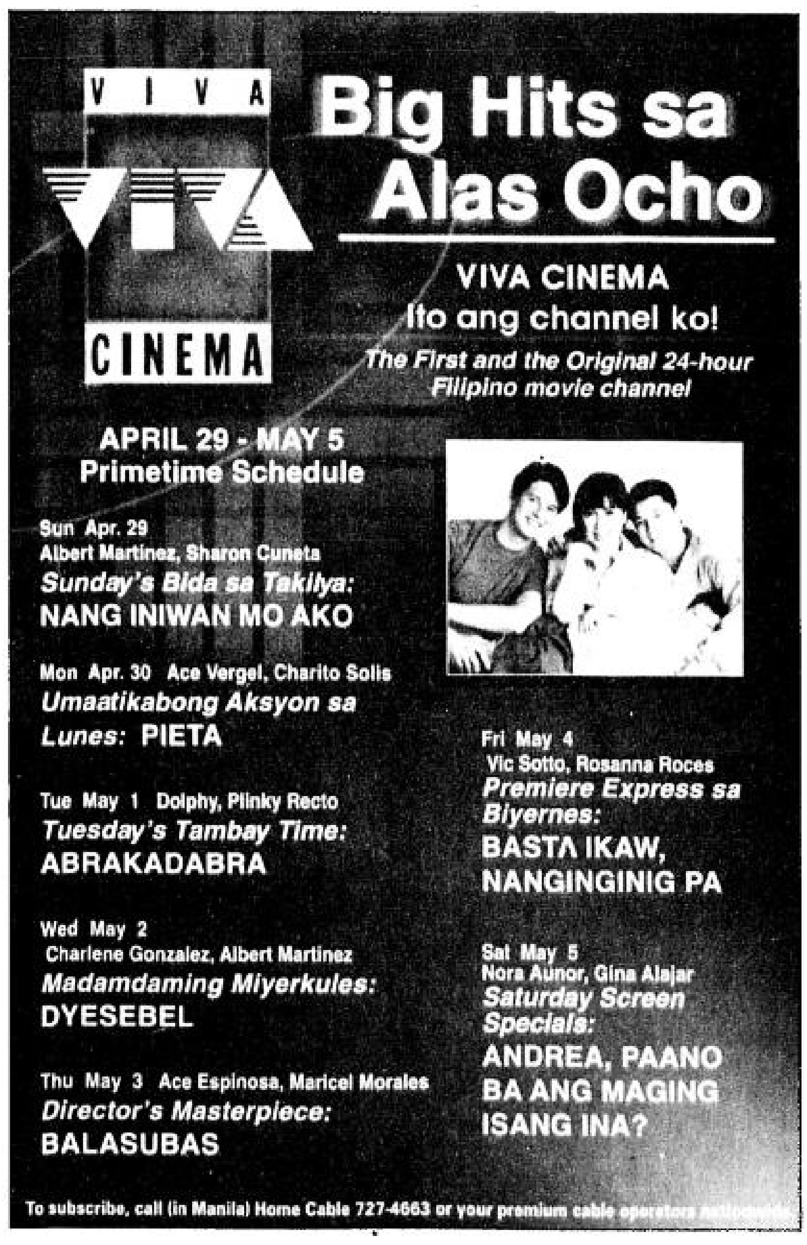

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Tuesday's Tambay Time:
ABRAKADABRA

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Charlene Gonzalez, Albert Martinez
Madamdaming Miyerkules:
DYESEBEL

Thu May 3 Ace Espinosa, Maricel Morales
Director's Masterpiece:
BALASUBAS

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Vic Sotto, Rosanna Roces
Premiere Express sa Biyernes:
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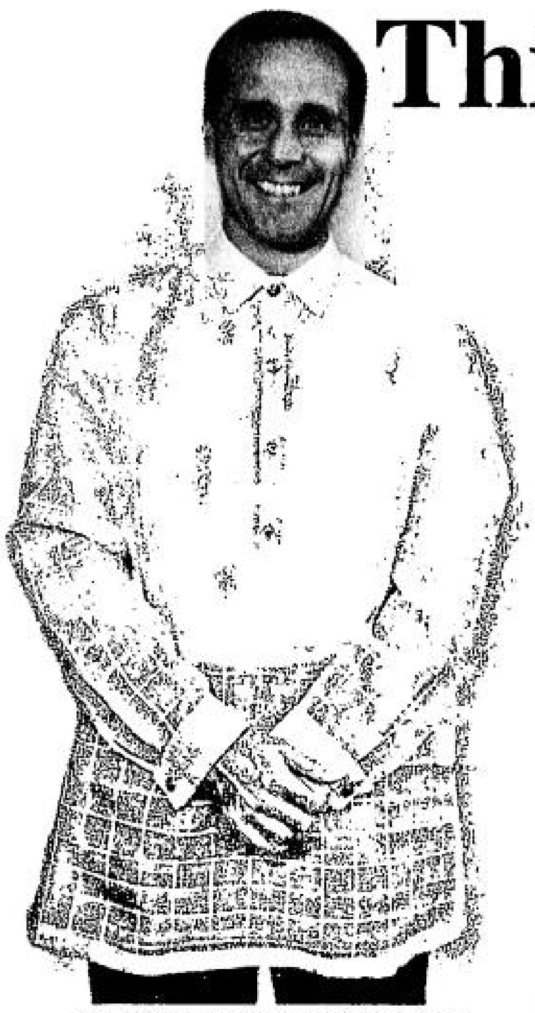


ANDREW Langston wears a *barong* (by Barge Ramos) for the first time.

BY MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ

CITING Buckingham Palace and the British Royal Family in his resumé has always gotten hotelier Andrew Langston in the door for interviews, be it for a new job or for the press.

The new general manager of Holiday Inn Resort Clark Field in Pampanga held the post of Royal Household Footman in Buckingham Palace from 1981 to August 1984. Although the difference between the Palace is, naturally, a non-commercial operation while the international hotel chain is commercial, service has always been the common factor that links them.

Langston studied general catering at one of the best schools in England, the Thanet Technical College in Kent and worked as a trainee manager at the prestigious Café Royal in London. Since the Thanet college president found job placements in Buckingham, Langston was among those whom he recommended.

Up close and personal

The job is similar to a butler service. Langston clarifies that there are categories. The yeoman looks after a particular department such as the cellar for the wines, the glass and china pantry and the silver. If there's a dinner for eight people, the yeoman of the cellar brings up the wine and Perrier; the yeoman of the glass pantry brings out the glasses and plates and the yeoman of the silver pantry retrieves the flatware. If a plate gets broken, the yeoman will pick up every piece, put them in a plastic bag, send them to Royal Dalton and have it remolded. It's cheaper than buying a new one, which costs thousands of dollars.

The Page is like a manager. The lady in waiting handles mail correspondences, is present at charities, advises the Queen's diary and accompanies the royals to the opera.

Langston's job as the footman was to attend to the daily personal needs of Her Majesty's Household. That meant knowing the likes and dislikes of the members of the Royal Family, their favorite foods, what time they get up and take a shower, how much sugar they want in their coffee. He served them meals and advised them on what to wear and who would be attending the functions.

The staffers also learn the royal protocol and advise guests. People, who are born in the royal circles and high society, don't need to be taught on correct attire and etiquette. From the day of birth, their parents tutored them. But people entering this elite circle or visiting dignitaries from another culture can find the royal systems and customs intimidating. The staffers' job is to assist them.

"You spend a year learning the job. You spend another year learning all the houses. Buckingham Palace is huge. It takes so long to learn Buckingham." Aside from the royal residences, he also had to be acquainted with the other facilities such as The Royal Yacht Britannia, The Royal Train and The Royal Flight.

Langston got to know the Royal Family very well. He accompanied Queen Elizabeth to state visits, he served the Prince and Princess of Wales when they went to Balmoral; escorted Princess Diana when she took walks and he looked after Prince William when he was born.

Royal regimen

The Royal Family members lead a regimented existence. They have breakfast at same time, followed by morning coffee, lunch, tea and dinner. They do the same thing every year. December is the only time the royals have a reunion at the Windsor Castle for Christmas. New Year is spent at the Sandringham House in Norfolk County. They go to Windsor for Easter. In July, it's the Palace of Hollyrood House in Edinburgh and in August and September they are in Balmoral.

"The Queen calls Windsor the home and Buckingham Palace, the office," says Langston.

Each house offers different attractions. Sandringham has pheasant shooting. Windsor Castle has horse riding with stables. Balmoral has fishing, stag hunting and golf.

It sounds like an easy life for the Royal Family, but it's quite deceptive.

"It's a little bit stressful because they can't do what you and I can do. They can't walk down the street; they can't go out for a drive; they can't go out in a restaurant with friends. There's a lot of stress. Imagine the Princess of Wales. Before she was married to Charles, nobody ever heard of her. Then she became the most photographed woman in the world. She's gone from oblivion to the main newsworthy person. That's pretty stressful," he says.

Keeping secrets

By the nature of his job, Langston has seen the Royal Family in their unguarded moments.

"I've signed the Official Secrets Act thrice. When you begin, you sign the Official Secrets Act. You revisit it when you leave so you don't tell any stories. You don't give any secrets. When I was there, there was an awful lot happening. Prince Andrew was going out with Koo Stark and Princess Anne and Capt. Mark Philips were going through a separation. Charles and Diana had just gotten married. Edward had just turned 18 or 19 and was going to college. So when I left, they made me sign the Official Secrecy Act twice because I had seen so much," he says.

Asked how accurate was the portrayal of the lives of the Prince and Princess of Wales in books and the TV movies, Langston says with a grin, "I'm not allowed to comment because I'm on the Official Secrets Act. It comes in useful doesn't it?"

He recalls certain blunders from the press. He once accompanied the Queen to an event of which the details from her arrival time to departure were erroneously reported.

What if he violated the Official Secrets Act? He could be certainly beheaded for squealing. But in the modern age, books that sourced information from former staffers were stopped. Other books got published since most of their sources didn't sign the confidentiality contract. More often than not, these sources were paid. But sometimes their stories were exaggerated or false.

Perks

Aside from being close to the royals, Langston has met VIPs such as Margaret Thatcher, Ronald Reagan. The late King Hussein of Jordan bestowed upon Langston a Jordanian Knighthood and Pope John Paul II gave him blessings.

He says the salary is "a bit average," but there are perks. At the Buckingham Palace, a maid looked after his room. Uniforms, a suit for a state visit, which could cost $8,000 and transportation to work, were provided. He'd sit in the back of carriages to pick up prime ministers and presidents from various locations. There's no transportation cost because he worked where he lived. If he accompanied the Queen to a state visit, "It's an unusual existence for a few years," he says.

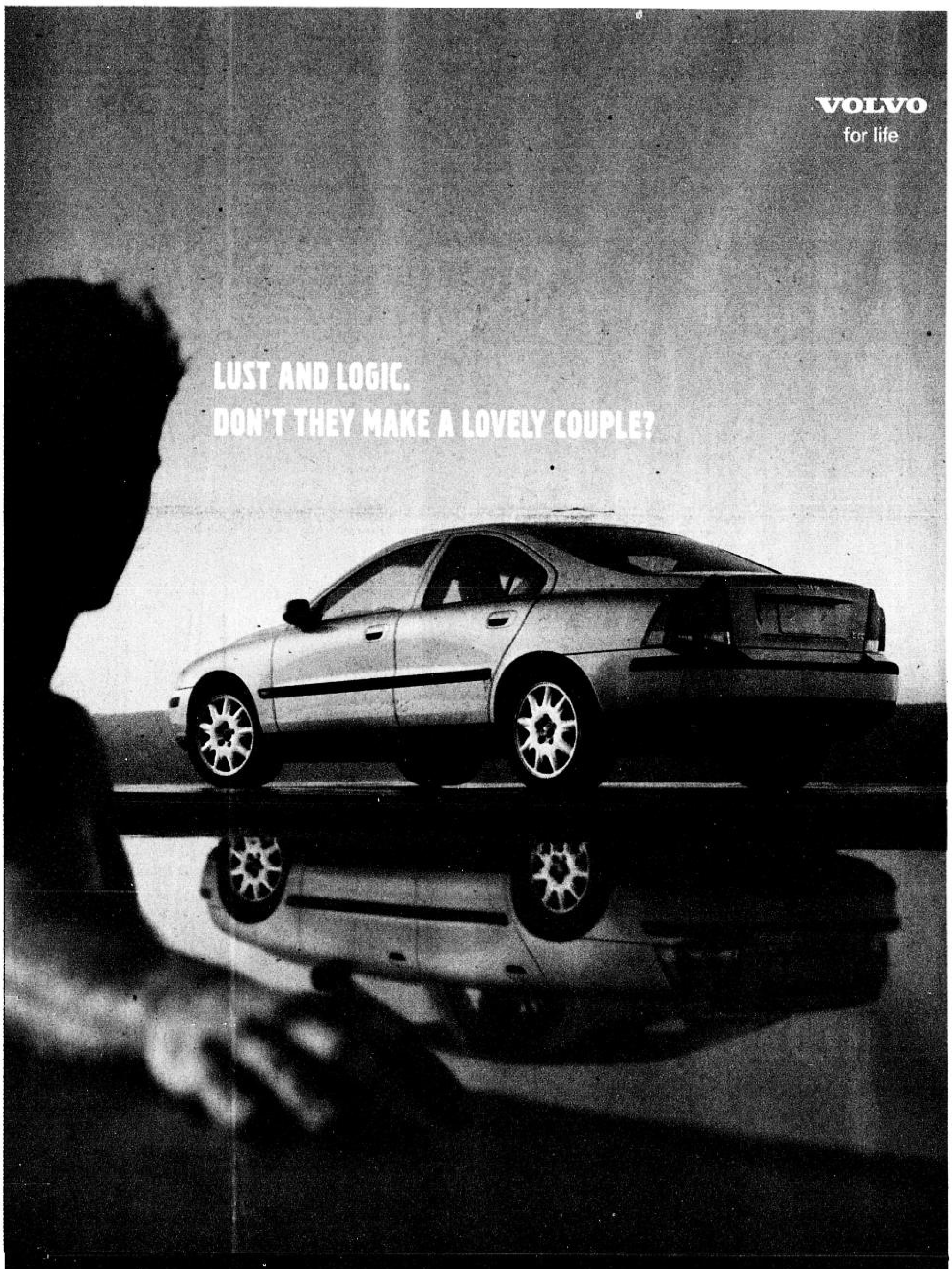
A staffer is always at the beck and call of his employers. Sometimes, a holiday or a day off could be cancelled when there are guests or when the Queen suddenly has to go to Windsor. If a staffer travels around the United Kingdom all the time, he couldn't always catch up with his friends and his interests.

After three years, Langston decided to work in a commercial environment. He was a restaurant and banqueting manager at the Corporation of Lloyds England. He became the food and beverage manager of Old Sydney Parkroyal in Australia and became executive assistant manager of Manly Pacific Parkroyal. He held the post of general manager in Daydream Island Travelodge Resort in Queensland, Island Travelodge in Papua New Guinea and Plaza Parkroyal in Singapore.

Two years ago, he visited Manila and Boracay and fell in love with the country and deliberately got a job in the Philippines.

Looking back at his career, Langston says he's served a variety of guests from royals to state dignitaries, tribesmen, businessmen and tourists. Because of his experience, he has conducted seminars and dispensed advice on etiquette and cultural differences and hosting a dinner party.

THIS/ B2



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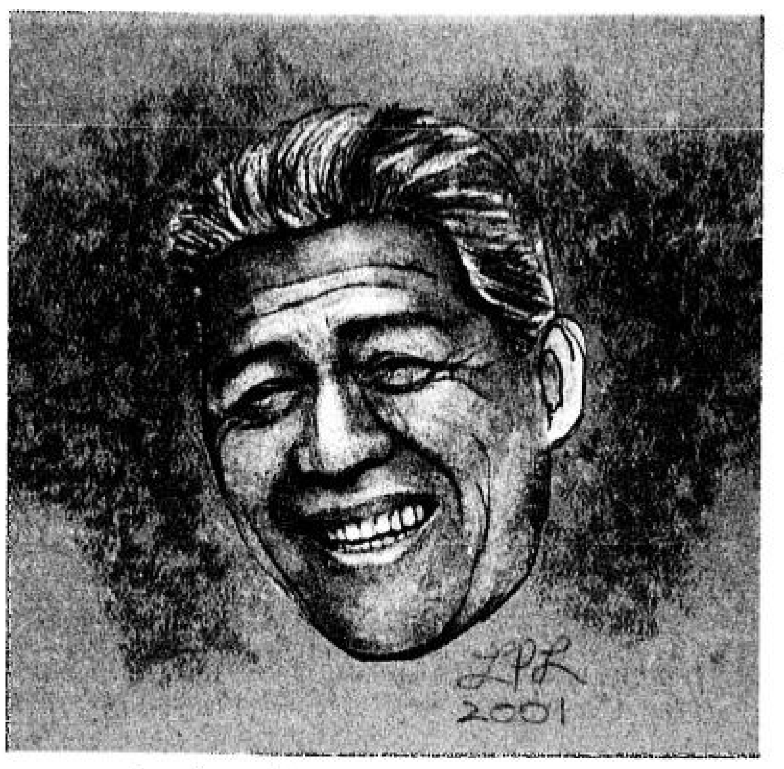
IN YOUR FACE

BY L. P. LEVISTE



JESUS N. Alcordo, president of the National Power Corp., is desperately seeking a solution to a P42-billion debt problem. His financial woes have raised concerns of a power rate hike within the year, which he needs to keep his creditors happy and willing to lend even more money to the debt-trapped firm.

This GM used to serve . . .

(From page B1)

Langston says there's no comparison between running Buckingham and a hotel. A dinner for six people in the Palace would involve seven people to serve them, replete with yeomans and their specialized jobs. In any hotel, you'd be lucky if two people is to serve—the sommelier and the food waiter.

Langston is enjoying his post in Holiday Inn Resort Clark Field which enjoys a 70-percent occupancy in the summer months. The market is a mix of business and leisure guests. The hotel is known for hosting meetings, conferences and exhibitions and is also a family destination. Foreigners visit Mt. Pinatubo or learn about the history of Clark Field air base.

"I've got the best of both worlds. I drive up to Manila for business and socials. Here, I've got fresh air, a beautiful hotel and nice surroundings," he says.

If you've got questions about etiquette, protocol and VIP service, contact Andrew Langston at andrew.langston@basshotels.com or visit the website: www.holiday-inn.com/hotels/clfrp.

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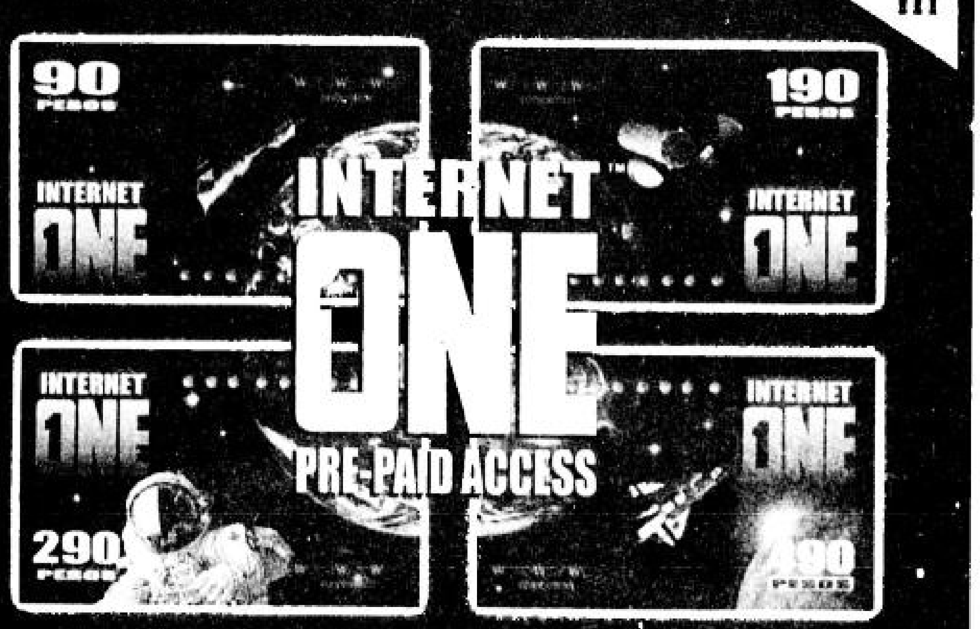

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Stay within your core competence, venture not into alien territory

"Profit from the Core"
Chris Zook with James Allen
Harvard Business School Press, 2001

BY DANTE M. VELASCO

ONE way to view mergers and acquisitions that have, of late, become more frequent, is to look at it from the seller's end. Why is he selling a company that has been perceived to be raking in revenues and making profits? Or, why is the seller leaving an industry that is not even a dying one?

EXECUTIVE READ

A respected group of companies is spinning off its food business. Its reason: "It is not within its core business." A large American insurance firm has sold its Philippine and other Asian operations to a European company. Why? It has decided to focus on its domestic core business—meaning concentrate on its American market.

What is happening in the Philippines and the rest of Asia is happening everywhere. When managing boards review their sales, profits and shareholder values, they make strategic and monumental decisions: to spin off operations that are less profitable or that turn out to be pulling down the average growth rate of the entire company.

Viewed another way, those who have just acquired companies or invested into new ventures are paying close attention to their organization's performance, the market's response, and the new acquisition's impact on their consolidated financial results—to find out early enough if such decision was wise. If not, they could go back to their core business.

Whatever point of view you are taking, you need a more systematic, logical and insightful approach—backed by careful study—to evaluate a prospective deal: sell or acquire. Or, take a second look at a done deal—a buyout, a merger, or a new venture. The objective: To find out if this action results or is resulting in sustained revenue and profit growth.

The book, "Profit from the Core," takes a position on this subject, based on a study by Bain & Co.'s Worldwide Strategy Practice: Ninety percent of all companies that invested outside their core business have failed to achieve sustained growth and failed to meet shareholder expectations.

The authors, emphasizing the virtue of staying within your core business, put it another way in a paradox: "From focus comes growth; by narrowing scope one creates expansion."

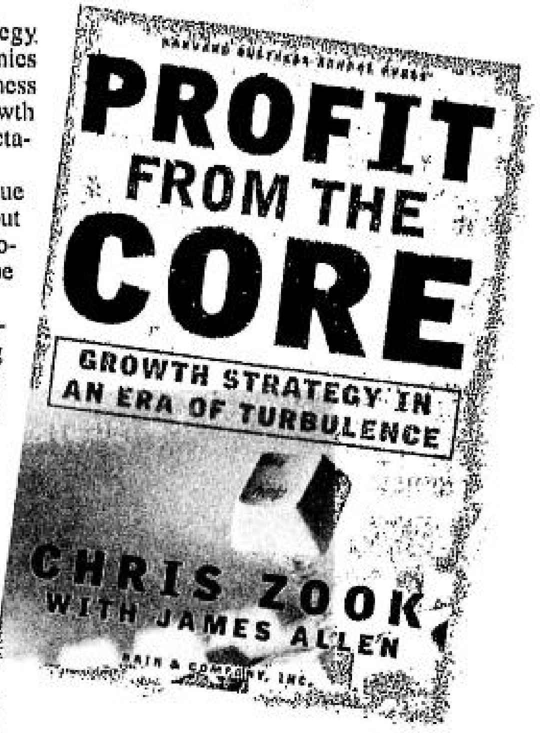
The book gives you a mix of success and failure stories from among familiar global companies owning world-renowned brands to illuminate their findings in a number of studies.

For example, Bausch & Lomb ventured beyond its highly successful soft contact lens business into electric toothbrushes (!), skin ointments (!) and hearing aids (!!). Result: Bausch & Lomb's contact lens business "flattened out" and its $56 per share in 1991 plummeted to less than $33 per share.

After reacting with desperate measures, and after Johnson & Johnson entered the contact lens business with Vistakon, B&L returned posthaste to its original business. The book points out: "But precious ground, time, and capital have been lost. Even more important, new and strong competitors are now entrenched."

Then the authors give this final word, a lament that could be shared by ill-advised straying away from the core business: "And it probably did not have to be this way." Read about Amazon.com's "all things to all people" policy, abandoning focus on books-on-demand from the Net, and how it incurred $1.2 billion in losses. Examples abound in the book, including the wise move of Pepsi to spin off its restaurant businesses to concentrate on beverage—and thus collide head-on with the leader, Coke.

It does not mean that a company remains at the core. The book reveals findings where "adjacency expansion." This is the company's move into related segments or businesses that utilize and, usually, reinforce the strength of its profitable core. "Building a profitable cushion around your core business can help to keep new invaders away or to block a sequence of a competitor's moves that lead into your core," the authors point out.


HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL PRESS
PROFIT FROM THE CORE
GROWTH STRATEGY IN AN ERA OF TURBULENCE
CHRIS ZOOK
WITH JAMES ALLEN
BAIN & COMPANY, INC.

Equipped with tables and case histories, the book is a must-read for CEOs and corporate planners who have ventured into new projects, but who want to take a timely exit if need be; or who are about to respond to the "siren song"—as the authors put it—and be enchanted by a call to the unknown.

As global management consultants, the authors offer their advice to companies to, first of all, define their core business, then extract the utmost profit from it, and consider integration (backward and forward)—the old term for adjacent expansion—when industry turbulence dictates it or when competitors are posing a grave threat.

This is easier said than done. The book provides insightful details.

Finally, to deliver the message even more powerfully, to forewarn companies about the seeming logic to stray away from their distinctive culture and competence in order to cash in on growth opportunities—the authors give us this distilled wisdom:

"Certainly, the world is full of paradoxes. To hit a golf ball farther, you hold the club looser. To make a plane lift off, you pull back on the throttle. To make the plant grow stronger and more quickly, you cut it back. To create the most organized economy in the world, you allow the free market to work its magic." (*dantemv@i-next.net*)

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Islamic education at New Horizon Integrated School

A NEW school in Metro Manila providing a world-class Islamic education to prepare young Filipino Muslims for the 21st century is set to open its doors on June 11.

New Horizon Integrated School (NHS) is the only institution of its kind in the metropolis. Duly accredited by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, NHS has an international staff of Muslim and non-Muslim educators. The school offers a comprehensive and rigorous program of studies for elementary, middle and high school students.

New Horizon's program of integrated studies is based on the principle that all subject matter reflect the Islamic worldview and that students and staff be trained in the modern systems to serve the cause of Al-Islam in every aspect of life.

"The education of the total human being is our priority. We want to graduate students with a much better understanding of their role in global society," said New Horizon director Agieb Bilal, an experienced African-American educator who has administered four Islamic schools in the United States.

Bilal said New Horizon warmly welcomes non-Muslim students and will extend scholarships to deserving Muslim and non-Muslim children.

Classes will be held in Quranic Sciences (Qur'an, Arabic and Islamic Studies); natural sciences (math/technology, Earth and life Sciences), human sciences (English reading, writing, literature, social studies, geography, history, government, economics, art) and Filipino language and culture.

New Horizon is housed in a brand-new, four-story building with 12 classrooms, library-media center, computer lab, science lab, administrative offices, a mosque/community center, and dormitory space. The school features state-of-the-art technology, with Internet access and all math classes from Kindergarten onwards to be taught in the computer lab.

Class size in limited to 20 students per class, with separate classes for boys and girls starting in 5th grade. The language of instruction is English.

New Horizon is currently accepting registrants and can accommodate 500 students. The school is located at the Ferrer Compound, Barangay Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City. For more information, call 643-5671.

BPI BAGS TOP DBP AWARDS

The Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) bagged the Most Outstanding Participating Financial Institution (PFI): All Around Performance, and Most Outstanding PFI: Industrial Guarantee and Loan Fund Program (Commercial Bank Category) awards for its most balanced and active participation in all of the Development Bank of the Philippines' (DBP) Wholesale Lending Programs. BPI president Xavier Loinaz and BPI executive vice president Gil Buenaventura (second and third from left, respectively) accepted the awards during DBP's appreciation cocktails at its head office in Makati City. Also in photo are DBP president and CEO Remedios Macalincag and Finance Secretary Alberto Romulo.

FISH KINGDOM SHOW

Business-artist Julius Limpe, now finding more time to explore his artistic side, is mounting his 8th one-man show "Fish Kingdom" at West Gallery, Glorietta 4. On view until May 1 are Limpe's works done in oil and acrylic. VIP guests shown with the artist during the ribbon cutting ceremony of his recent 7th One-Man show at Gallery 828, Shangri-la Mall are famous models (from left) Tweety de Leon, Apples Aberin and Patty Betita.

SEAWEED PRODUCTS FOR HEALTH, BEAUTY

Facial Care Centre overall manager Marichu Ruiz (right) together with Repéchage USA president and CEO Lydia Sarfati talk about the benefits of Repéchage products. A complete line of health and beauty aids, Repéchage products are made from the finest seaweed extracts, botanicals and fine natural ingredients. These products are exclusively distributed in the Philippines by Facial Care Centre. For inquiries and free consultations, visit or call Facial Care Centres in Makati (817-3323), Ortigas (687-2196), Quezon City (372-6633), Binondo (242-2148), Alabang (842-1144), Shaw (717-0076) and Cebu (032-2337631).

Interns become young pros

A MONTH or two of being a part-time intern in an office – at least with the present system being employed by most schools - is insufficient to equip soon-to-be-graduates with the basic training for professional life.

Asia Pacific College (APC), one of the country's top information technology schools and an educational partnership of SM (Shoemart) Foundation and IBM Phils., has formulated a scheme whereby its graduates become accustomed to an actual corporate environment and are exposed to practical work situations even before starting their professional life.

The students like the idea that they're with the company for a longer period of time and are involved more deeply in the work. Because the internship is for six consecutive months, they're assigned real projects. They keep the normal working hours and are even paid. They're treated like professionals, an APC official confided.

On their fourth year in college, the students are assigned to work at prestigious education partner firms like IBM Phils., Citibank, San Miguel Corporation, Astra-Zeneca Pharmaceuticals, and Meralco-Corporate Information Solutions (CIS), following a regular eight-hour work day, five days a week. They are under the supervision of selected industry professors who evaluate the interns. The set-up provides the interns with comprehensive practical experience, which the confines of a classroom cannot possibly give.

APC is at No. 3 Humabon Place, Magallanes Village, Makati City, website www.apc.edu.ph, e-mail apcquery@mail.apc.edu.ph, trunk lines (632) 852-9232, direct lines (632) 852-9670/71, 854-1740, fax (632) 852-2648.

IBM seizes lead in Intel-based server market

FIGURES released by IDC show that during the fourth quarter of 2000 IBM took the lead in the Asia-Pacific market for Standard Architecture Intel Servers, taking 18.9 percent of the market with shipments of 43,323 Intel-based servers.

According to IDC figures, IBM also took the lead in the Japanese market for Standard Architecture Intel Servers during the same period last year, with 21.9 percent of unit shipments.

"We are delighted with this result," said Alex Yost, brand marketing executive for IBM eServer xSeries in Asia-Pacific. "Our customers have chosen IBM's eServer xSeries Intel-based servers for a number of compelling reasons, including the fact that xSeries incorporates mainframe-class technologies taken from the rest of our e-Server range, the fact that customers can leverage the breadth and depth of IBM, the world's largest IT and IT services company, and because we are leading the industry in our support for Linux."

"IBM can anticipate added growth in the SIAS segment as increased usage of e-commerce, ISP, ICP, and ASP will continue to serve as the key driving forces behind SIAS growth," said Kitty Fok, associate director, IDC Asia/Pacific Ltd.

ABS-CBN DEAL

ABS-CBN Consumer Products, Inc. recently inked a deal with giant telecommunications company Bayan Telecommunications, Inc. to feature Kumustahan Phone Cards and ABS-CBN's talk show "The Buzz." Signing the contract were ABS-CBN Consumer Products, Inc. managing director Lani Chua (left) and Bayantel International Business Division vice president Sherry Ann Supelana.

CAP CHAIR RECEIVES AWARD

College Assurance Plan (CAP) and CAP College Foundation chair Dr. Alejandro R. Roces became the first ever recipient of the International Organization of Folk Art (IOFA) Gawad Kultura Award for his "unwavering commitment to the preservation of Philippine culture through his research, documentation and writings on its various aspects." Roces, the late president Diosdado Macapagal's education secretary, was responsible for Philippine Independence Day to be celebrated on June 12 (from July 4) and recovering the original manuscripts of Dr. Jose Rizal's "Noli Me Tangere," "El Filibusterismo" and "Ultimo Adios" at no cost to the government. The IOFA–Philippines Foundation honors artists, cultural workers, scholars, citizens, or institutions that made significant contributions to the preservation, propagation and dissemination of Philippine culture and cultural heritage.

BITS Clips

Fun at Kidz Station

THIS APRIL, every P500 purchase at any Kidz Station store entitles customers to crack an Easter egg for a chance to win instant Kidz station goody bags. Kidz Station features a selection of fun and educational toys, trendy apparel, footwear and accessories. Kidz Station is located at Rockwell Power Plant Mall, Shanri-La Mall, Alabang Town Center Expansion Mall, Ayala Center Cebu and Festival Supermall.

DLSU-D resets homecoming

THE ALUMNI Association of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas (DLSU-D) invites all graduates to its 4th general alumni homecoming on Saturday, May 5, 3 p.m. at the Museum Plaza of the DLSU-D campus. The activity brings together DLSU-D graduates from 1979-2001. For more details contact the Alumni and Placement office at (02)844-7832; (046)416-4554 to 56 local 3036, or visit www.dasma.dlsu.edu.ph.

Seven Suites turns three

THE SEVEN Suites Hotel-Observatory in Antipolo has just celebrated its third year April 28. From April 16 to May 16, Seven Suites offers a special anniversary rate of P2,000 on its five-star amenities and spa. Enjoy a fine dining experience at its newly launched Bistro Amore!. For inquiries call 426-4848 to 29, or visit www.cravingsgroyp.com

BayanTel's IDD, NDD promo

BAYAN Telecommunications, Inc. gives you "Grab-a-Regalo 2". Residential local exchange subscribers of BayanTel get traveling sports bag free with a minimum bill of P500 for IDD and/or NDD call per month during the promo period. In Metro Manila, promo lasts up to May 20; Eastern Visayas May 22 to June 22; Agusan June 18 to July 18; and Southern Mindanao Aug. 29 to Sept. 29. To claim the prize, present BayanTel statement of account and receipt at authorized redemption centers.

Gardenia Fun Buns stick-ons

GARDENIA Fun Buns kicks off the summer heat with its Funtastic skin stick-on promo. Get free Funtastic skin stick-ons inside every pack of Gardenia chocolate and ube buns. Collect all 25 designs, from nature-inspired to pop-art themes. Simply wet the stick-ons to transfer the design to the desired skin area.

Abenson Appliance Quest continues

FROM April 15 to 30, Abenson features the latest summer appliance collection at Robinsons Place Manila, Ever Ortigas from April 16 to May 9, and Robinsons Place Imus from April 20 to May 9. Call Abenson for more information at 5368020 or 5367914.

Citibank donates computer labs

KRUS na Ligas High School in Quezon City is the beneficiary of this year's Citibank Computer Laboratory Project. Citibank will install a complete computer lab outfitted with over 20 brand new Personal Computers, including peripherals, in their endeavor to improve the school's computer education program. Citibank specialists will also take time off from work to donate their time and knowledge in teacher-training sessions and sessions with the students.

Fruits in pills here

FRUIT concentrates in tablet form are now available, according to Uptrend Health Center. With the brand name "Fruit Max", a tablet contains 12 freeze-dried fruits such as apple, apricot, cherry, cranberry, grape, lemon, orange, pineapple, papaya, peach, prune, and strawberry. For more information, call Uptrend Health Center at 9283464, or e-mail uptrend@pacific.net.ph.

Best fish research and production search

Santeh Feeds Corporation, in cooperation with BFAR, the CLSU-College of Fishery, UP-Visayas College of Fishery, the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center, and the Philippine Aquaculture Society have launched the Fish for Every Filipino Awards 2001. The recognition covers hatchery and grow-out production as well as outstanding research contributions to freshwater and marine aquaculture. Those interested to nominate may call Riza San Juan at (02)2456619, or at e-mail tatehiso@skyinet.net. Deadline for submission of nomination is on July 31. Winners will be announced in September.

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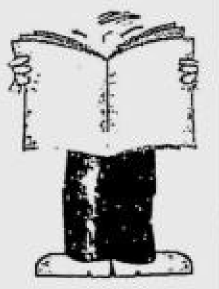

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- Must have 1-2 years working exp. in Adm. works

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VSO Philippines (VSOP) welcomes applications for two high quality, commited staff to work with foreign volunteers professionals, to share skills and change lives:

i) Gender and Social Development Programme Manager

Based in Manila, the successful candidate will develop and manage VSOP's gender programme, and other VSOP social development concerns including enterprise development, education and deaf placements. Main tasks include volunteer placement and support, integration of gender into VSOP's programmes, management of 2 VSOP personnel, and development of the VSOP programme with other VSOP management team members.

Essential skills, experience and qualities for this post are:
Knowledge and experience of development work: at least 7 years professional experience in development and/or volunteer sector;
Project management experience including planning, finance and fundraising.
Strong interpersonal skills in a cross-cultural context
Communication skills: excellent oral and writing skills in English for various audiences; knowledge of Microsoft office applications, preferably with knowledge on other databases, spreadsheets, and web.
Preferably with 3 years management experience including personnel management and staff supervision; **Sound grasp of gender issues** in the Philippines and preferably familiar with at least one other VSOP social development sector: education, enterprise development, and deaf community;
Organisation and facilitating skills: able to organize, and facilitate VSO workshop, training and conferences; simultaneously implementing many tasks under pressure; experience of handling a heavy and routine office workload, good organisation and time management.
Ability to travel: S/he will monitor the effectiveness of existing placements, as well as identify, assess, evaluate, and recommend suitable new volunteer placements. S/he will therefore be expected to be on tour every month.

This post is initially offered on a three-year contract.
Closing date: 11 May 2001
Starting date: 1 July 2001
Code: GSDPM

ii) Project Officer for TOSCADAR-Mindanao (Technical and Organisational Skills of Civil Society Actors of the Displaced and at Risk in Mindanao)

Reporting to the TOSCADAR-programme manager, the post holder will be based in Iligan City and will be responsible for the management of a small rehabilitation fund to maximise impact of VSO Philippines' TOSCADAR-Mindanao programme. TOSCADAR-Mindanao is an EU-funded VSO programme covering the areas of Lanao del Sur, Lanao del Norte, Bukidnon, Misamis Occidental and Zamboanga del Sur that aims to assist displaced and marginalised "at risk" or vulnerable communities in their rehabilitation and development initiatives. Main tasks: appraisal, monitoring and evaluation of small rehabilitation projects supported by Toscadar, fund management and administration, capacity-building for local rehabilitation partners, overall assistance to TOSCADAR programme management, support to VSO volunteers in Mindanao, and support toward overall maintenance and administration of the wider VSOP programme. Starting date will be October 2001.

Essential skills
Project appraisal, monitoring and evaluation skills: at least five (5) years experience in project appraisal work, monitoring and evaluation of community-based projects including knowledge and experience in project/programme planning and implementation.
Proven commitment to marginalised people and communities, preferably the Muslims and indigenous peoples in Mindanao.
Development work experience: minimum of 3 years experience working professionally in development; sound analysis of development issues, specially Muslim and Indigenous Peoples' issues, an understanding of causes of poverty and conflict including emergency and rehabilitation.
Finance, administrative and facilitating skills. Experience of tracking, monitoring budgets and expenditures; prepare narrative and financial reports; able to manage, facilitate, organize workshops with local partners.
Strong communication in English: (oral and written) to be able to communicate effectively to VSOP, VSO UK and donors
Organisation skill: must be a good team player; ability to work under pressure.
Circumstance: ability to spend time away from base visiting; must have full driving license.

This post is offered on a three-year contract.
Closing date: 11 May 2001
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Please send letter of application and curriculum vitae marked **confidential** to: **PROGRAMME DIRECTOR, VSO Philippines, No. 20 South Lawin Avenue corner Bacolod Road, PHILAM Homes, West Avenue, Quezon City, 1104**; email address: vso-phil@qinet.net
Kindly mark on the envelope the Code of the post you are applying. We regret to say that VSO can only respond to short listed candidates who will be sent an application form in the week beginning 14 May 2001.

Interviews will be held in Manila: 24 May 2001 for Gender & Social Development Programme Manager and 25 May 2001 for Toscadar-Mindanao Project Officer.

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(PDI -- Apr. 29. 2001)

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QUEZON CITY

Nr Rbinson,SMFview 260m² only P980T 'cheap'4140418

Rush Chp Lving 4BR 655-6284

• Nr Kalipunan / Aleneo • P32M LA 1,500 FA 600 2-Stry 10BR 7T&B Spacious 721-5226

Cubao 300sqm 5.3M 6453731

Cubao 6Dr. Apt 11M 6453731

FULLY FURNISHED NR SM NORTH T926-4889

LA VISTA Katipunan LA3309 FA1090 Tes 935-6357 455-2401

Mapayapa QC 4BR 4TB 3Cg MRM P5M Pager1441742219

Mira Nila QC 354FA 5br 5t&b 3stry 150LA 6.9M 9289714/9279609/4532899

NEW MLA. 0917-7541545

Sikatuna400sm 7.5M 6453731

Tierra Bella 351sm 931-5553

T.SORA P1.3M
09179834920/09173574399

Xavierville New Duplex
0917-7541545

RIZAL

2Sty 4BR 2TB 3.5M 6412590 643-6766 • 0917-7887315

Vista Verde 200LA 281FA 4BR 3TB Maids Rm/TB 2cargrge Nice 3.5M RUSH B141619148 C9175351847

PROVINCIAL

Pacita 5yr 2 Pay 8472626

Rush Lucena City 541-3434

SCH Binan 4BR 2TB L278 F125 P2M Neg Tel/Gar DBO •Call Danny (042)5353109•

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

PROVINCIAL

Tagaytay New Vachse 316 LA 200FA Near Church Our Mother Perpetual Help Titled 046-4134249

OTHER AREAS

CanyonWoods Btngas 7.5M ownrlvng neg0917-8143792

NoDP,2650/mo 09195898014

Upper Bicutan 195m² 4BR P1.25M Vic 8903461 loc.27

LOT

MAKATI

FURND 1BR CTYLAND dela Rosa 2 T8235174

Mkti - Nr P.Burgos 269sqm w/Apt @ 23K/m² 8885007

MANILA

ADRIATICO - 313m² w/ Old House @ 60K/m² 8440130

MANDALUYONG

Mand 450 & 301m² 532-3936

Lot w/Old 2Sty LA:264m² Nr EDSA 3 5M only 5312021

WACKWACK Townhomes 2BR 93sqm 3M only 5312021

MUNTINLUPA

PLEASANT VILL w/direct access rd to FILINVEST Alabang 477m² P5,500/m² VIC/GIGI 8903461 loc 27

Posadas Vill 300sqm
Call • 0917-5388320

PARANAQUE

Rush Cheap 510sqm 655-6284

PASIG

Lot 6971sq.m. & warehouse at Pasig w/ wharf provision CALL: 897-5272 (Zenaida)

QUEZON CITY

• Kayumanggi Sl West Tri. • 434 @ P25T/m² Old Hse 721-5226

• Greenmeadows 1,054sqm • P27T/m² Facing South 721-5226

Nr Cherry Congressional LA300 Call Tes 935-6357

RUSH SALE!!!
Area. 9224.50m² Culiat, Sanville Subd gd for garage of heavy equipment owner leaving P5,500/m² or Best Offer Contact: CP# 0917-4366696 or 0919-2736254

Sta. Mesa Hts 0917-7541545

RIZAL

Antipolo 2M 730m² 7443465

PROVINCIAL

609 sqm Ligtong Rosario Cavite Call 7317988

Balayan Batangas 14Ha. T-717-0137, 0917-7912430

BARGAIN! TARLAC PROP. Hway Ideal Gas Station 5810m² 1,200/m² T8105313

Bulacan Plaridel Frontage
North Expressway
1.5ha P700/m² T-9488507

Citiland Subd. Bul. Hts
StaMana Bul 240m² 360T 4155744

Glenwood Subd. Calamba 309sqm Tel. 0917-8122488

Lot in Cabuyao Laguna 120sqm Call 8891797 Joan

RUSH: Tagaytay Lot 2510sqm overlooking Taal Lk. along Natl Rd beside Golf Club. Contact Yolly Cupat Tel#09198103219 or email REINER @GUOMAI.SH.CN or Fax 008621-62619187 or Alberto Nagrama 6410017

OTHER AREAS

TOWN&COUNTRY Southville 209m² P800T Vic 8903461L.27

VARIOUS AREAS

4Sale Prime Lots w/in Metro Mla Pasig Cubao Antipolo Mrkn Las Pinas Cebu P'que 995-5029 / 5545 Edwin

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

MAKATI

Bngkal Mkti 2BR 47.65m² w/ nice improvements hot&cold water, bathtub semi-furn CALL 5517649/ 09179303642 (owner leavng)

Bngkal Mkti studio 600T 1BR 900T+up w/terms very acc. CALL 5517649 or 0917930

Salcedo Park Twr 11.5M 4BR 3Cars facing pool Rush! 4121825 / 09177914366

MANILA

BAY GARDEN
Alg Roxas Blvd. 7438550

BAY GARDEN
along Roxas Blvd 7438550

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

MANDALUYONG

2.5M 2BR 1TB w/Pkng DBO Only 882-0805 0919-3624113 Anna

WACKWACK Townhomes 2BR 93sqm 3M only 5312021

MARIKINA

★Nr St Scho-Mall 948-3171

PASAY

1-3-4 BR Nice Condos 0917-8986655 • T928-4431

Roxas Blvd w/Bay View 123BR Terms Call 928-2369

RUSH SALE
3Storey 4BR, 3TB, Carport Maid's Qtr w/Free Phone Line, Pump, LA=63sqm, In front BLTB, Direct Buyers Only P3.5M 0917-5004686 Baby • 049-5628698 Oscar

PASIG

Rush! Renaissance 2000 DBO 2br+2tb 09178143792

QUEZON CITY

Cubao Condo 1.3M EZTerm 9126976 9132224 4381480

1-BR Condo unit frntng Ateneo, One Burgundy Plaza Katipunan Rd. QC P1.5M cntc Lyn T-5320141/(0917)4192637

Narra Hts 9155177 3BR

PANAY 3BR P5M 722-8951

T/Hse nr Ateneo 4260189

Woodside NMla 9155177

RIZAL

New 4br 3t&b 2Stry Carport LA101m² FA160m² Sale P1.4M V.East 913-7892 / 141-247311

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

2 Golf Shares Baguio Camp John Hay 450T each Neg. T893-0860/1110

FARM/FISHPEN

Baras Farm 1.5H 635-0462

50HA Fishpond Victoria Tarlac Call Mil 8096864

LIPA 3 & 7 Has P120/m² 7343386

LOOKING for 7 15 HA Farm Land in Munoz Nueva Ecija. CALL 09178162231/ 8487238. Look for Jojo

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

KALOOCAN

3620065 BRIONES 7AVE 2T9 S/T

LAS PINAS

3 BR 3T&B 2CarGar B-new 8751248 - 8718096

MAKATI

2BR GRG nr B'dia 15T 8441669

MANILA

2 Units Sta. Cruz Mla nr UST Ben 288-6470 447-2132

3 BR NAGTAHAN T715-1687

NR UST P7.5 2STRY 2BR TB STRG H2O NEWLY PTD. 731-5427

STA. ANA
1BR P5000/mo 5624020

PARANAQUE

4BR3CR w/tel parking space at 28B Boeing St. Concord Vil., MIA Rd. Contact 09173271028 Look for Haydee

PASAY

3BR 3T&B Maid's Qtr Grge 551-0016 (0917)891-3301

STUDIO w/TB&K 4009293

QUEZON CITY

1Big Rm P5T Call 928-1780 or 453-5600

3BEDROOMS APARTMENT 66 MARIVELES STA. MESA HEIGHTS Q.C. CONTACT #7418948 MICHE OR AMY

V nice 1BR nr. Katipunan C5 call 727-5728/682-1467

VNice 1BR Nr Katipunan C-5 727-5728/682-1467

SAN JUAN

2BR UD 1car P7T 744-3465

HOUSE

KALOOCAN

APT 4 Rent 6T/m T9314057 Look 4 Leonie Quiet

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

MAKATI

MAGALLANES VILLAGE 2-stry on 465m² corner lot, 3BR w/den,3T&B,2car grge, maids/driv. qtrs. Semi-furn, newly painted. Located across from tennis courts & children's playground. Call (0917)838-4578

MANILA

Cor Lot 1503 San Gregorio
Paco Contact Cynthia
757-0167 • 0917-4837974

PARANAQUE

4BR 2TB 2CR Grg Levitown 5 Pque 10T 716-1495 / 0917-5412127

4BR3T SSHW UPS4 8212019

PASIG

Nice House VV2 7275056

QUEZON CITY

10B Malumanay St. Sikatuna Vill. 2BR&TB 15T/mo Alan 8184277

3br 2tb Kamias T921-8724

New 3BR 3TB CG w/ maid rm TSORA QC T9319861

RIZAL

4BR 4TB C2aprciate 655-6284

Vista Verde Cainta
5BR 3TB SFurn 2CGrge 25T 681-3725 / 0919-3522607 Angie

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2BR FFurn P58T 892-4832 Renaissance Salcedo Makati

Condo 1BR Prkg Bangkal Mkti Call 8891797 Joan

Crown Tower Condo, Salcedo Vill 2BR 163sqm FF w/Pkg, Mds Rm. P60T/mo. 896-6665

CTL8 1BR P Fur P10T 9299835

Easton Place
Herrera Bnew FF 3br 5tb w/Mds Rm & 2br 3tb also
Call Tel. 757-0167
Cell. 0917-4837974 Cynthia

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cell 0917-3575970

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09178381928 ★09178112635
manila@cbre.com

MANILA

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VCruz-Taft nr LaSalle
B'New Std/123 BR 11-37K
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0917-8381928 • 09178112635
manila@cbre.com

CONDO Units 4 Sale/Lease nr LSU Taft Tel#(045)9615306/ 09177302246 - May

1BR nrDLSU 57m² 9175364840

STA. ANA
1BR P5000/mo 5624020

MANDALUYONG

Wack Wack Twin Towers Wack Wack Rd. Mandaluyong City Call: 7270316

PIONEER 1BR • 722-8951

Reasonably priced Studio, 1BR and 2BR units Call Gina at 532-1016 or visit us at #101 Isaac Lopez St. Mandaluyong City

PASIG

1-2-3 BR Sale/Rent
0917-8986655 • T928-4431

8T Sale 950T 2BR 6714787

AIC Gold Twr Ortigas Bnew FF 4br w/Den, Prkng 356m²
Tel. 757-0167
Cell. 0917-4837974 Cynthia

Horizon Meralco Ave 3BR Furn Pool P50T 681-9954

Renaissance 2000 Pasig F/F w/ Telephone & Parking 35T A Mo. Tel. 8071245

QUEZON CITY

Fur TH 2BR 1Grg 2TB Mds Qtr w/1TB P28T 722-1887

New Mla 3BR 26T 8173676

T'house 3BR 2TB Parking Don Antonio QC Call Mahdi 9296809 or Joan 8891797

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

FOR LEASE

700m²+ Beer W'hse w/ofc@BF-Pque 50%Open area@P35T/mo. bck of Pres. Ave. T8252550

BANK SITE FOR LEASE OR RENT along Edsa Pasay near Evangelista Makati formerly UCPB Malibay Branch for 8 years
714-28-50 0917-5351445
714-80-20 0917-530-5525

Ofc Space 4 Lease 85-1525sqm Avlbl Mkt-CBD T8114102-Mimi

Piggery w/rest house for rent w/running water 8510250

ROOM & BOARD

QC CBD 15th Ave 9420612

Ldys Nr UP QCHALL 5243126

Studio/RM9218785Kamias

LADIES DORM - Beth/Mercy 8175059/5074 / 7495005/20

BEDSPACE

9138403•09179290770Male

Male 1,000 Malibay 8510250

Prof wrkg Male 8901383 nr. Reposo/Buendia Makati

WANTED TO BUY

4 Sale Exclusive Educ. Plans
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LOAN & MORTGAGE

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L Business Personal Edwin/ Gigie 8903461 loc. 25/27

LOANS 4 DOCTORS, DENTISTS SALARY. BUSINESS. SSS 524-3197

BUSINESS RENTAL

EDSA Guada/G'hills
PARC I&II 7264371, 150-359801

P1,800/mo Stalls
Malate T-400-6420/23
Sn.Pedro Lag. 808-6006/07

COMM'L. SPACE/CANTEEN 708 J.A. SANTOS ST. NEAR WILSON SAN JUAN 7276237

TEKTITE
7 & 10 sq.m. P10 P12T
6365593-94 / 0919-3404299

RESORT

Beach Hse Zambales 8953560

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

94 Honda Civic LX Blue 230T Neg. 112km 1st owner central locks power steering Susan 8061309/09189122980

HYUNDAI

'98 GRACE P250T 731-3492

'98 GRACE P265T 731-3492

'99 H100 345T 7313492

KIA

'98 PREGIO P330T 7313492

MAZDA

94 B2200 2Cab P/S P215T 8315830/5354 Blue neg.

MERCEDES

1995 C220 A/T Bong 7222222

'98 MB100D P395 7313492

MITSUBISHI

91 GLNT GTI New T. Belt PS P229T 8315354/5830 neg.

'96 LANCER EL 4 Sale 200K Neg Tom 9350218

97Lncr GLXi 263T Neg8382015

NISSAN

'94 Vanette Owner Driven P280T 7221887 150325032

'96Altima BlueBird 1.8CC 4317424 / 09192128438

JEEP/JEEPNEY/AUV

99 ISUZU Frwd 6W P350T Vic 8903461 Loc. 27 & 25

VAN/PICK-UP

96 'Suburban' 1500 Gas P880T Call Tel.# 844-2937 or cel.#: 0917-5262979

URGENT SALE VAN FROM KOREA 94 MODEL P220T BESTA 92 MODEL GRACE P180T T7317911

OTHER CAR BRANDS

20%DP
local/imported used car brand new 564-4110

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L300 Van 5109530/8533103

MB 100 Van 643-7397

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Car Vans 4535288-9296250

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LENDING 8990215

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1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523-24

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 3670169

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

ELECTRONIC & INDUSTRIAL EQUIP

Tech 1 American Cmptr Bag 4 Automble Diagnosis GM/Ford Chrysler '82-'98 0917-9990990

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18ft Python 9367701Tame

Labrador Yel 4mos 2mos 2M2F 9976469 09178458452

ROTT M 6315171/09178198803

UPPERMOST DOG SCHOOL #09197219020/09193419012

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Billiard 23T 25T & 30T New Accept C.Card • 781-9453

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Sales & Rentals T-9341569

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New Tables/Acc. 714-5044

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Computer P15T 435-2335

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Wanted PS/GS Teachers
Call 631-9020 / 890-1205

RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY At least two years experience. Mush have: excellent organizational skills, good verbal and written English, proficient with Office software Call:895-1368 or 78

Cook 4 Foreigner 726-1266

Lady Haircutter 913-7892

Math and English Teacher/Tutor #671-5798

• PRESCHOOL TEACHERS • Fresh Grad BS Educ/Psych Call 913-9145 Look for Ms. Nova M-F 9am-5pm #10 J.Ocampo St. Proj4 QC

Underboard Nurse RAD
Tech Lic Pharmacist
Call 912-1235 / 911-7375

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Nutritionist Waiter
3010068

CARE GIVER T5280722

Fem. Merchandisers & M/F Sales Representatives w/ Experience Call 9153075 Look For Marie

Garment Factory is in need of ACCTNG GRAD. FINE ARTS GRAD., PROMO GIRLS CALL 3612188 3624449

•HAIRSTYLIST•
At least 5yrs experience, 25 years old & above. Apply at JAVANA SALON 39 Lydia Bldg., Polaris St., Bel-air, Makati Call Ms. Susan at 897-7276/853-0250

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. Ofc.Staff 9134470-Nicol

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Wanted Sales Clerk
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Wtd. H/Maids Yaya/Fam. Cook/Fam. Driver 660-4589

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

Real Estate Seminar
Licensure Start May 4
REBAP QC Call 743-9094

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1HA COGEO Antipolo Rawland @P500/m² Term ok T-8252550

Bus. Rights 4 Sale Canteen Reg. Customer/Oprtl P120T Equip/10mon 4130273 0917-4260388

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PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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SMART 3210-5.8; 3310-7.2
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RTW / Swimsuits 727-4934

RTW Cash/Consign 373-8821

Shake-O Pearl Shake franchis-low investment/high profits ca 4148214-15 /9151734-35

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late CESAR DALMACIO had been the subject of Deed of Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate With Waiver of Rights Interests Among the Heirs under Doc. No. 198, Page 40, Book No. II, Series of 2001 in the Notarial Registry of Atty. Wendell E. Coronel of Makati City.
(PDI-April 29, May 6 & 13, 2001)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that SM Stocks A in the names o Prudencio &/or Marcelina Falcon both deceased, administered b Bernadette Falcon have bee declared lost per Doc#37 Page#77; Book#37; Series o 2000 before Notary Public Concepcion Juanlas of P'que., MN 97455296, 96403646, 9525362 94149511, 93073131, 9202827 89029595, 89007702, 8800326 86015130, 81077461, 7900701 79041171, 99590519, 9745529 96403647, 95253624, 9414951 93073132, 92028274 89029596,89007703, 88003261 86015131, 81077462&8006034 PDI-April 29. May 6 &13.2001

PERSONAL

PRAYER to BLESSED MOTHER
(NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL)
O, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin,assist me in this necessity, Oh star of the sea help me and show me, herein you are my Mother Oh Holy Mary. Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of My Heart to succor me in this necessity there are none that can withstand Your power. Oh show me herein You are Mother.

Oh Mary, conceived without sin. Pray for us who have recoursed to thee(3x).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in Your hands(3x).

Thank you for Your mercy toward me and being mine

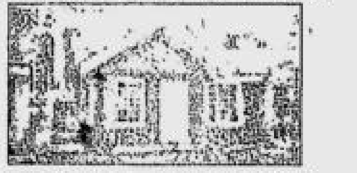
Thank you Mama Mary for answering my prayers.Amen (This Prayer must be said for three days and after three days, your request will be granted and the prayer must be published.)

Lakeshore Homes

Brgy. Tunasan, Buendia St., Muntinlupa City (via South Super Highway exit to Susana Heights)
Tels.: BETH- 817-6522 • 815-2975 • 894-0301 (weekdays office hours)
CORA- 569-5390 • 5601042 (weekend office hours)
Email: pmv@mindgate.net.ph

READY FOR OCCUPANCY

VICTORIA - 3 bedrooms, 2 t&b Price: P1,978,489.00



SOFIA - 2 bedrooms, 1 t&b Price: P1,305,246
SOFIA - 2 bedrooms with loft, 1t&b Price: P1,647,538.00

IN HOUSE AND BANK FINANCING AVAILABLE

NOTICE OF LOSS

This is to inform the public that the following provisional receipts of All AsiaPlans Corp. were declared lost

Booklet no.	Series number	Booklet no.	Series number
2-187	11861-70	2-313	13121-30
2-189	11881-90	2-314	13131-40
2-275	12741-50	2-315	13141-50
2-281	12801-10	2-316	13151-60
2-288	12871-80	2-317	13161-70
2-290	12891-00	2-320	13191-00
2-291	12901-10	2-321	13201-10
2-292	12911-20	2-322	13211-20
2-293	12921-30	2-323	13221-30
2-294	12931-40	3-711	27101-10
2-295	12941-50	3-712	27111-20
2-296	12951-60	3-713	27121-30
2-297	12961-70	3-716	27151-60
2-298	12971-80	3-717	27161-70
2-299	12981-90	3-718	27171-80
2-301	13001-10	3-719	27181-90
2-302	13011-20	3-720	27191-00
2-303	13021-30	3-721	27201-10
2-304	13031-40	3-722	27211-20
2-306	13051-60	3-723	27221-30
2-307	13061-70	3-724	27231-40
2-308	13071-80	3-725	27241-50
2-309	13081-90	3-726	27251-60
2-310	13091-00	3-727	27261-70
2-311	13101-10	3-728	27271-80

Any transactions covered by the above numbered receipts will not be honored by the company.

ALL ASIAPLANS CORPORATION
All AsiaCapital Center, Paseo De Roxas, Makati City
Tel. No. 8183211/8130188 Telefax 8482068

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND SALES

UP FOR SALE DOWN ON PRICE

REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES AT BOTTOM COST

HOUSE & LOTS, TOWNHOUSES & CONDOS

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
ANTIPOLO				
Blk 1 Lot 29 Rosal Ave. Lumang Bayan Executive Village Marcos Highway	126	3 units of 2-storey (with 2BR and 1TB per unit)	139.25	1.42M
Blk 1 Lot 5 Circumferential Rd. San Roque	203	3-door (3-storey commercial unit with 3BR and 2TB per unit	615	3.9M
CALOOCAN CITY				
#34 Magsaysay St. Del Rey Subd., Baesa	374	2-storey single detached with 9BR and 4TB	414	5.5M
Blk 9 Lot 34 Ezekiel cor Isiah St., North Crest Subd. Bagumbong	103	single detached with 2BR and 1TB	74	480T
Blk 4, Lot 10 Laster Lily St. BF Homes Phase 3 Doparo	275	2-storey with with 5BR and 3TB	290	2.6M
MANILA				
1980 Kasama St. Sampaloc	240	2-storey duplex and 4-storey resdl property (12 apt. units)	746	10M
1226 Pres. Quirino Ave. Paco	694	4-storey with 7BR and 10TB	858	20M
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
Bermuda corner Bahrain St. Annex 40 Better Living	65	2-storey townhouse with 2BR and 2TB	91	1.26M
No. 10 Hometown St Fourth Estate Subd.	200	split-level house with 5BR and 2TB	185	1.7M
No. 32 Benitez corner E. Yuchengco St. BF Homes	984	single detached with 7BR and 6TB swimming pool and basement	523	8M
No. 37 Dela Rama cor. C. Benitez St BF Homes	316	bungalow with 5BR and 6TB	260	3.6M
No. 24 A Chico St BF Homes	280	bungalow with 3BR and 3TB	245	4.9M
Unit 11-A, No. 15 Finland St. Better Living Subd.	51	Townhouse with 2BR and 2TB	79	1.2M
Unit 11-C, No. 15 Finland St. Better Living Subd	51	Townhouse with 2BR and 2TB	79	1M
No. 808 Armela Comp. Km. 17 Int. of West Service Rd South Super Highway*	3585.55	11 parcels of land (with 5 units of warehouse and plant site		23.2M
Unit 315-A Abbey St. Goodwill Subd. III Ba. San Dionisio*	111	townhouse unit		1.57M

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
PASIG CITY				
20 3rd St. Doña Juliana Subd. II	540	2-storey with 7BR and 4TB	408.48	4.5M
Unit 303 Catalura Building Las Villas de Valle Condo Valle Verde II, Kamito St. cor. Lanica Ave.*		condo unit with 3BR and 2TB	132.96	4.26M
Renaissance 2000 Meralco Ave. Unit 306, 3rd Flr.*		condo unit with 3BR and 3TB	191.065	9.6M
Renaissance 2000 Meralco Ave. Unit 901, 9th Flr.*		condo unit with 1BR and 1TB	70.089	3.7M
Lot 17-D, Gumamela St. De Castro Subd.	56	2-storey apartment with 2BR, 1TB	64	700T
Lot 17-C, Gumamela St. De Castro Subd	57	2-storey apartment with 2BR, 1TB	65	750T
Lot 17-A, Gumamela St. De Castro Subd	56	2-storey apartment with 2BR, 1TB	73	800T
#87 cor Butterfly and Firefly Sts. Valle Verde 6 Pasig City	957	2-storey residential building with 4BR and 5TB	505	32M
QUEZON CITY				
Int. Waling-Waling St. RDJ Subd., Sauyo Novaliches	250	2-storey with 4BR and 2TB	141.75	1.8M
No. 501 Spalding St Pentagon Homes Diliman	400	split-level house with 6BR and 4TB	310	6.5M
Blk 5 Lot 1 General Ave GSIS Village, Project 8	330	5-storey unfinished building	1181	12M
Unit 3-B Building II 3rd Floor Bougainvilla Mansion, P. Tuazon Cubao		condo unit with 3BR and 2TB	[illegible]	2.2M
Blk 1 Lot 20-A/B (No. 24), Manggis Road Cubao	1122	commercial property (office, car shed)	205	30M
No. 10 Sierra Monte Villas Filinvest II Matandang Balara	99	2-storey townhouse		2.2M
No. 138 A Luna St Project 4*	288.2	2-storey house		6.5M
Lot 4497-B-2-A No. 1133 Edsa Balintawak	1000	office and residential building	1121	40M
Blk 22 Lot 38 South Eades St North Susana Executive Village	160	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	210	4.2M
SAN JUAN				
Unit 416 Classica Manor Condo, Araullo cor. Montessori St		condo with 1BR and 2TB	60	2.4M

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- QUIRINO HIGHWAY, LAGRO, QUEZON CITY
- QUIRINO HIGHWAY, BRGY. PASONG PUTIK, NOVALICHES, QUEZON CITY
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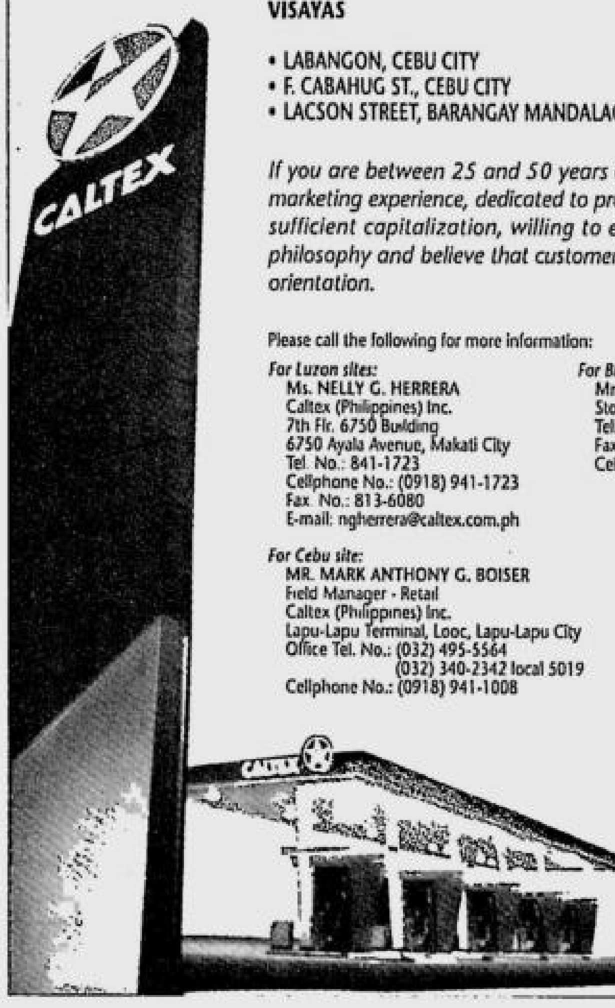

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PRE-QUALIFICATION AND BIDDING FOR THE PROVISION OF ENGINEERING MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR CY 2001

BID BULLETIN NO. 1

Please be informed that the bidding for Engineering and Maintenance Services which was advertised last April 7, 8 and 9, 2001 has been extended. The new schedule is as follows:

May 2	4:00 P.M.	Deadline of securing of bid forms
May 4	4:00 P.M.	Submission of bid forms and written comments for discussion during the pre-bid conference
May 7	1:00 P.M.	Pre-bid Conference
May 11	10:00 A.M.	Bid Opening

Bid Forms may be obtained from the Property and Supply Department, anytime during office hours.

(Sgd.) **REMIGIO M. OLVEDA, M.D., CESO III**
Director IV

(PDI--April 28, 29& 30, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS SERVICE
Bldg. 26 San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. (632) 743-83-01 loc. 3626 & 3627

April 13, 2001

INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB NO. 2001-5-24 [1] & [2]

The Department of Health hereby invites sealed written bids for the provision of the following services for the calendar year 2001 on the following scheduled calendar of activities:

	PRE-BIDDING	OPENING OF BIDS
SECURITY SERVICES (IFB No. 2001-5-24 [1])	May 9, 2001 @ 9:00 a.m.	May 24, 2001 @ 10:00 a.m.
JANITORIAL SERVICES (IFB No. 2001-5-24 [2])	May 9, 2001 @ 11:00 a.m.	May 24, 2001 @ 2:00 p.m.

All the above activities will be held at the Multi Media Center of Excellence, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

Interested parties who can provide the above services may obtain bid documents from the Procurement and Logistics Service, Department of Health, Manila from **April 30 to May 21, 2001 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** and upon submission of letter of intent and payment of non-refundable fee of **Two Thousand Pesos only (PhP 2,000.00)** for each bidding documents.

Bids must be delivered on or before the scheduled opening date, time and place. Prior to bid opening, pre-bid conference will be held as indicated on the above schedule.

Each bid must be accompanied by a bidder's bond in the form of the following: (a) Unconditional Bank Guarantee. (b) Irrevocable Letter of Credit issued by a reputable bank, (c) G.S.I.S. Bond. (d) Manager's Check. (e) Cashier's/Certified Check or (f) Any combination of the above proportionate to share of form with respect to total amount of security in the amount of **two and a half (2.5%) percent and must be valid for thirty days (30) beyond the validity of bid.**

For further information, please contact **Ms. Carolina P. Horradura**, Director, or **Ms. Bernadette G. Ipac**, Chief, Procurement Division of the Procurement and Logistics Service, Bldg. 26, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila or call 743-83-01 local 3626 & 3627 or 338-34-13.

The Department of Health hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the Department of Health and to Local Health Units.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:
(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary of Health
Chairperson, Central Office-Bid and Awards Committee

(PDI--April 21, 22 & 29, 2001)

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Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND BID

The Professional Regulation Commission hereby invites interested SUPPLIERS to submit sealed bids for the printing and supply of materials for PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

Pre-bid conference will be held at the PRC Conference Room on **May 14, 2001** at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon. Failure to attend the same will be a ground for disqualification to participate in the bidding.

Pre-qualification requirements and bidding documents shall be available at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner, Second Floor, PRC Main Building from **May 2-4, 2001**.

The two (2) envelope system shall be adopted in the bidding.

All bid proposals must be accompanied by a bidder's bond equivalent to 2.5% of the total offer in the form of Manager's Check or GSIS bond.

The PRC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, to waive any defect or informality therein and to accept the offer most advantageous to the government. It likewise assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense incurred in the preparation of the bid.

(Sgd.) **ALFONSO G. ABAD**
Acting Chairperson

(PDI – Apr. 28 & 29, 2001)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND CUSTOMERS OF ARIELA MARKETING, INC.

Notice is hereby given that the employment of **GRACE A. GANAS**, whose picture appears above and whose last known address is **Block 4, Lot 6 Miramonte TownHomes, Pit-os, Talamban, Cebu City / Borbajo St., Talamban, Cebu City**, has been terminated for cause as **Sales Representative/Agent of the Ariela Marketing Co., Inc.** effective **26 March 2001. Ms. Ganas** is presently charged with **Estafa** thru **Falsification of Commercial Documents** at the Office of the City Prosecutor of Quezon City.

Any transaction made by **Grace A. Ganas** on behalf of the company prior to the date of the termination of his employment shall not be honored by the company. All queries and information may be secured from the law office of **JOSON CARLOTA & PO** at **1318-C Mezzanine Floor, Reza Bldg., Quezon Avenue, Quezon City (372-32-67 / 410-18-91).**

(PDI -- April 29, 2001)

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MESSAGE OF THANKS

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, will live, even though he dies and whoever believes in Me, will never die."
John 11:25-26

TAN CHIN

Peacefully joined our Lord on April 21, 2001 at the age of 71.

His loving wife **CELESTINA**; children **ROSALYN, FE, ROY, EDWIN, EDITH, YSMAEL, ROSABELLA, ROSEMARIE, ROSANNA** and **RAQUEL**; sons-in-law **KEN, FERDINAND** and **ROGELIO**; daughters-in-law **ANNABELLE, ANNALISA, RACQUEL**; grandchildren **CELINE, KENALYN, RACHELLE, RONABELLE, REINER, GRESA, FANNY, RYAN, CARMINA, CELESTINE, RONALD, RALPH, BRYAN, HANNAH, VINCENT, SAMANTHA** and **JERICHO**; relatives and friends mourn his passing and wish his eternal rest.

The family wishes to convey their heartfelt gratitude to all who, by way of presence, prayers, thoughts, and flowers, offered them solace and comfort especially at this time.

His body was viewed at La Funeraria Paz, Quezon City. Interred Saturday, April 28, 2001 at Eternal Gardens Memorial Park, Caloocan City.

POCH DE CASTRO

Joined our Lord on April 27, 2001
at the age of 61.

His loving wife **Maria Corazon "Cosette" Alparce de Castro**; his children **Andrew, Frank** and **Carla**; his parents **Emma Antonio** and **Fidel de Castro** and his relatives and friends request readers to pray for his eternal rest.

His remains lie in state at Our Lady of Beautiful Love Parish in Merville Park, Parañaque City.

He will be cremated on Tuesday, May 01, 2001.

Mercedes de Ocampo Eva

Peacefully joined our Creator on April 26, 2001
at the age of 77.

Her loving husband **Emmanuel Rañola Eva**; together with her children **Pocholo** and **Alexandra Miguel, Pambi** and **Bobby Arcangel**; brothers and sisters **Ciony, Lody, Tony, Medy, Jun, Edong, Bing** and **Inday**; brothers and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews, grandchildren and great grandson; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the Nuestra Señora de Salvacion Funeral Home, Bonot, Legazpi City.

Interment will be at the Bicol Memorial Park, Boglong, Legazpi City after the 9:00 AM Mass at St. Raphael Church at a date to be announced later.

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me;
and where I am. My servant will also be."
John 12:16

Our Dearest Mother

ASUNCION DA JOSE MUNSAYAC

of Cabiao and Quezon, Nueva Ecija

August 14, 1925 -- April 25, 2001

Her loving children **LEONILO (Boy)** and **EVA, LOTTIE** and **JOE, LEO** and **MARISSA, MARLETTE** and **LITO, ANN** and **BENJIE** and **DESS**; grandchildren **Jackie, Lenard, Meggie, Gellie, Jun-Jun, Nikki, Nikko** and **Nikole**; brothers **Domingo** and **Arturo**; aunts **Virginia** and **Elisea**; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in San Fernando Sur, Cabiao, Nueva Ecija.

Interment will be on Tuesday, May 1, 2001 at Cabiao Catholic Cemetery after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the St. John Nepomuceno Parish Church, Cabiao, Nueva Ecija.

"Omnia in bonum!" (St. Paul)

We the family of the late

Maj. Gen. Felix V. Dueñas Jr. (Ret.)

wish to express profound gratitude for your spontaneous love, sympathy and support at his untimely demise on April 15, 2001.

We find strength and we are humbly grateful to you all in knowing that he touched so many lives in his concern for others. He will continue living on in our hearts and through the lives we lead as testament to his legacy of love.

Thank you very much.

Spouse: **Geraldine (Hedy) Franco**
Children: **Dondi, Gretchen, Jaymee**
Parents: **Col. Felix** and **Esma Dueñas Sr.**
Brothers and Sisters-in-law: **Manny** and **Anne**
Jojie and **Celia**
Sister: **Wina**
Mother-in-law: **Swinda Franco**
Sister-in-law: **Winnie Franco**
Brothers- and Sisters-in-law: **Bong** and **Malou Franco**
Vic and **Annie Franco**
Floy and **Isa Franco**

Message of Thanks

We, the family and relatives of the late

CATALINA A. BATONGBACAL

who joined her Creator on March 19, 2001
at the age of 104

hereby convey our most sincere gratitude and appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent spiritual bouquets, flowers, donations and notes of sympathy, extended support, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and who, in countless ways, condoled with us in our moments of grief.

Ramona Cruz Legarda

Joined her beloved husband Conrado on April 27, 2001
at the age of 84.

Her beloved children **Rolando**, **Narcisa**, **Victor**, **Aida** and **Roy**, **Lito** and **Baby**, grandchildren **Rouselle** & **Fred**, **Joey** & **Chepie**, **Vincent** & **Malou**, **Rommel** & **Terry**, **Leah**, **Lotlot**, **Allan**, **Claire**, **Rhoda** and **Jojo** and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, May 1, 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque after the 8:00 a.m. Holy Mass.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family and relatives of the late

ROSALINA GO VERA

who peacefully joined her Creator on March 28, 2001

wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to those who expressed their sympathy, stayed with us during the vigil and funeral rites, sent flowers, gave perpetual membership for prayers and donated to the Misael P. Vera Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

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IBM builds bridge from Internet to SAN with new storage products

IBM announced a new portfolio of products and technology – including an industry-leading iSCSI network storage appliance – all designed to lead the industry's rapid immigration to open storage networking.

The initiative delivers on IBM's commitment to create through customer-focused solutions, interoperable storage technologies that leverage the function yet reduce the complexity of Storage Area Networks (SANs). They are designed to help customers manage the explosive growth of data and the resulting need to have faster, flexible, universal access to that data.

"As e-business and the Internet move storage from the back room to the heart of the IT network, customers are looking to take the islands of storage they have built and create interoperable, open storage networks, be it within a single department or a worldwide enterprise," said Low Yik Choon, executive, Storage Systems Group, IBM ASEAN/S.

"With customers increasingly moving to storage networking, IBM is better positioned than ever to lead the industry and expedite this significant business transformation."

The changing marketplace and the emerging importance of storage networking is cited by Forrester Research, which predicts that by 2003 nearly 75 percent of all hardware spent by IT decisions-makers will be spent on storage hardware, with the remaining 25 percent going to traditional servers. Of that 75 percent for storage hardware, 80 percent will be invested in open storage networking hardware and software, enabling customers to store and make accessible the back-breaking amounts of data now clogging the IT infrastructure.

IBM's storage networking initiative includes:

- The industry's first open NAS appliance, IBM TotalStorage Networked Attached Storage 300G*, which allows Local Area Network (LAN)-based clients and servers to easily interoperate with an existing Storage Area Network (SAN), leveraging the features and performance of a SAN with the ease and convenience of a NAS product;
- The IBM TotalStorage IP Storage 200i*, a high-performance, low cost iSCSI storage appliance that connects users to pooled storage on a network using Internet protocols. iSCSI delivers storage for departments/workgroups, mid-market customers and service providers who are not able to justify the cost and support required in fiber channel SAN environments.

Bridging NAS and SAN

IBM is bringing a new product offering to the market that converges Ethernet/IP network and SANs. The Network Attached Storage (NAS) 300G is a highly tuned file server that resides between the local area network (LAN) and a storage area network (SAN). From the client/server side on the LAN, these products appear as a NAS device, serving multi-protocol files, yet its storage resides on the SAN. This capability enables customers to leverage their investments in SAN infrastructure, skills and tools, and reap the benefits of NAS including simplicity, quick deployment cycles, reduced cost of access, and heterogeneous data sharing.

For more information about IBM storage, visit www.ibm.com/storage.

in honor of
JUSTICE
COMMISSIONER

TESTIMONIAL DINNER
Masbateño businessmen and professionals host a testimonial dinner in honor of Justice Leonardo A. Quisumbing (sixth from left) and Customs Commissioner Titus Villanueva (fifth from right) April 6 at The Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel. Also shown are (from left) Ed Atendido, Jun Floresta, Ronie H. Zurbito, Nick A. Bergantin, Coy A. Delavin, Zaldy Almoradie, Percy Atienza, Lawyer Rainier Butalid, Lawyer Romulo D. San Juan and Bishop Joel Z. Baylon.

CESB eligibility exam for gov't execs

AS PART of its intensified campaign to boost the occupancy of Career Executive Service Officers (CESOs) and CES Eligibles in CES positions, the CES Board will conduct the nationwide open Management Aptitude Test Battery (MATB) on June 3 in three key cities—Quezon City, Cebu City and Davao City.

Unlike the monthly walk-in MATB where incumbents of CES positions are the ones only qualified to undergo the examination, officials holding division chief level status who are at least bachelor's degree holders are also allowed to take the pencil-and-paper test.

Test applications should be accompanied by the following: a copy of appointment paper to present position and service record duly authenticated by the agency's personnel officer; three 2"x2" photos taken not more than six months before the filing of application; and an admission fee of P500. The deadline for filing of applications is on May 21.

Interested parties may write the CESB at No. 3 Marcelino Street, Holy Spirit Drive, Diliman, Quezon City, or call 951-4981 to 88 (local 108, 109, 113) or send an e-mail to rsacs@cesboard.gov.ph.

IT'S A DEAL!
Comunidades Developers, Inc. president Enrique Moras shakes the hand of International Exchange Bank executive vice president Elizabeth Romulo, as I-Bank chair Gerardo Lanuza, Jr. and I-Bank president Ramon Sy beam with pride after the four signatories ink the memorandum of agreement. Comunidades has appointed I-Bank as the trustee bank of Parque Bonifacio. As trustee, I-Bank holds in trust the initial downpayment of investors for the 30-story, 261-unit condominium project in Fort Bonifacio Global City initiated and managed by Comunidades. The Comunidades concept has been widely accepted and practiced in Spain for over 30 years now.

CALUMPIT INSTITUTE GOES INTERNATIONAL
Calumpit Institute, Bulacan (CI) signs up with Genetic Computer Institute's (GCI) Information Technology Education Support Program. With this, C.I. students from first year high school up to college will be adapting GCI's International Curriculum which will equip them with the IT knowledge needed to face the rapid technological changes of our times both locally and abroad. Shown in photo (inset) is C.I. president Arch. Oscar Del Rosario together with Kevin Hartigan Go, GCI-DSTC president; other witnesses to the signing are (extreme left) C.I. principal Yolanda Cruz, Joel Enriquez, marketing and operations manager of GCI QC and Zenaida Flores, corporate secretary of C.I. (right).

COMMEMORATING BISHOP BRENT
Brent School Baguio commemorated its founder Charles Henry Brent on March 30, and one of the highlights of this event was the unveiling of a statue as a memorial to him. Bishop Brent was the first Episcopalian Bishop in the Philippines. Lawyer Enrique Sobrepeña, president of College Assurance Plan, uncovered the plaque, assisted by the president of the National Honour Society. Students bearing the flags of the different countries represented in the school provided a fitting background to the ceremony.

BITS & Clips

Goober's fun peanut butter combination

GOOBER, one of America's best-selling peanut butter spreads, brings to the Philippines Goober Peanut Butter and Jelly Stripes—a delicious combination of creamy peanut butter and great-tasting jelly in one package. Goober is made by Smuckers, America's number one maker of quality fruit jams, and distributed exclusively by Sysu International. Goober Peanut Butter and Jelly Stripes come in four flavors: grape strawberry, chocolate, and honey stripes.

UP cum laude

MAGLALANG

RHEA R. Maglalang graduated cum laude April 22, 2001 from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. The 21-year-old now has a degree in BS Business Administration and Accountancy.

PSBA accountancy grad

RECIO

ARCHIE Paolo H. Recio, eldest son of Alfredo Recio and Maria Lourdes Habel, graduated April 22 from the Philippine School of Business Administration in Quezon City with a degree in Accountancy (BSA). Commencement exercises were held at the PICC, CCP Complex.

Occupational wages survey results

THE DOLE announces the results of the October 1999 Occupational Wages Survey are now available to the public at the Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLES) homepage (www.manila-online.net/bles). The labor market data provided by the BLES as a subscriber to the IMF system include employment, unemployment and wages or earnings data under the "real sector" category.

Lemery U Club anniversary

PRESIDENTIAL Adviser on Peace Process Secretary Eduardo Ermita keynotes the 49th anniversary celebrations of the Lemery U Club on Monday, April 30 at the Westin Philippine Plaza. Club president Rodolfo E. Venturanza has earmarked the proceeds of the fund-raising event for the purchase of computers to be donated to three public elementary and one public secondary school in Lemery, Batangas. For tickets, call 850-9893 or 809-0715 and ask for Lelet Garcia.

G.A. Yupangco summer sale

THE SEVENTH Summer Swing Out Sale of G.A. Yupangco and Co., Inc. is ongoing until Monday, April 30. SSOS, originally patterned after the NAMM exposition, an international gathering of the world's best brands of musical instruments in the United States, offers the most popular and latest models from Yamaha, Washburn, Fender, Marshall, Sabian, Pearl, Roland, Korg and Soundtech. The SSOS is happening at the main office showroom of the Yupangco Building, 339 Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, and at all Yamaha Music stores and Perfect Pitch stores. For details, call 899-9595 or e-mail info@yupangco.com, or visit their website www.yupangco.com.

Mensa testing

MENSA, the international society for people who belong to the top two percent of a certified standard IQ test, is holding a series of qualifying tests in the Philippines on June 16. Registration begins at 12 noon, while the qualifying test sessions begin at 1 p.m. Tests will be held at rooms 1 and 2 of the Institute of Social Order, Ateneo de Manila University campus in Katipunan, Quezon City. For inquiries, call Bella Bengco at 732-9193 or e-mail mensa_ph@yahoo.com or mensatestph@bigfoot.com.

Nurse placement service provides link

BELLA

A SOUTHERN California newspaper story states that 25,000 nurses are needed to fill the need of various California health facilities. Daisy C. Bella—wife of Bert Bella, M.D. who works in a California hospital—and her sister Evangeline C. Cruz, an immigration lawyer in Los Angeles, have teamed up to form the Via Pacific Placement Service. Via Pacific simply connects the nurses to hospitals and facilities. The company also handles the legalities of migration and contracts to work. For questions, e-mail daisecbell@aol.com, or visit www.viapacificjobs.com.

'King of sports grills' invades Manila

THE "UNDISPUTED King of Sports Grill" invades Manila. National Sports Grill, with outlets all over California, has chosen the Philippines as its first site in Asia. The latest addition to the NSG chain sits in a 1,200 sqm., 5-level dining area at the newly renovated Greenbelt Mall in Makati. Equipped with 30 TV monitors and an 84-inch Jumbotron, diners can enjoy watching their favorite sports games or relax at NSG's billiards tables and tournament-quality dartboards.

NSG's famous themed menu boasts of an exciting selection of Tex-Mex meals mostly grilled and cooked without Monosodium Glutamate ("vetsin"). Chug them down with a glass of your favorite drink from NSG's bar with its wide offering of liquor, cocktails and drinks.

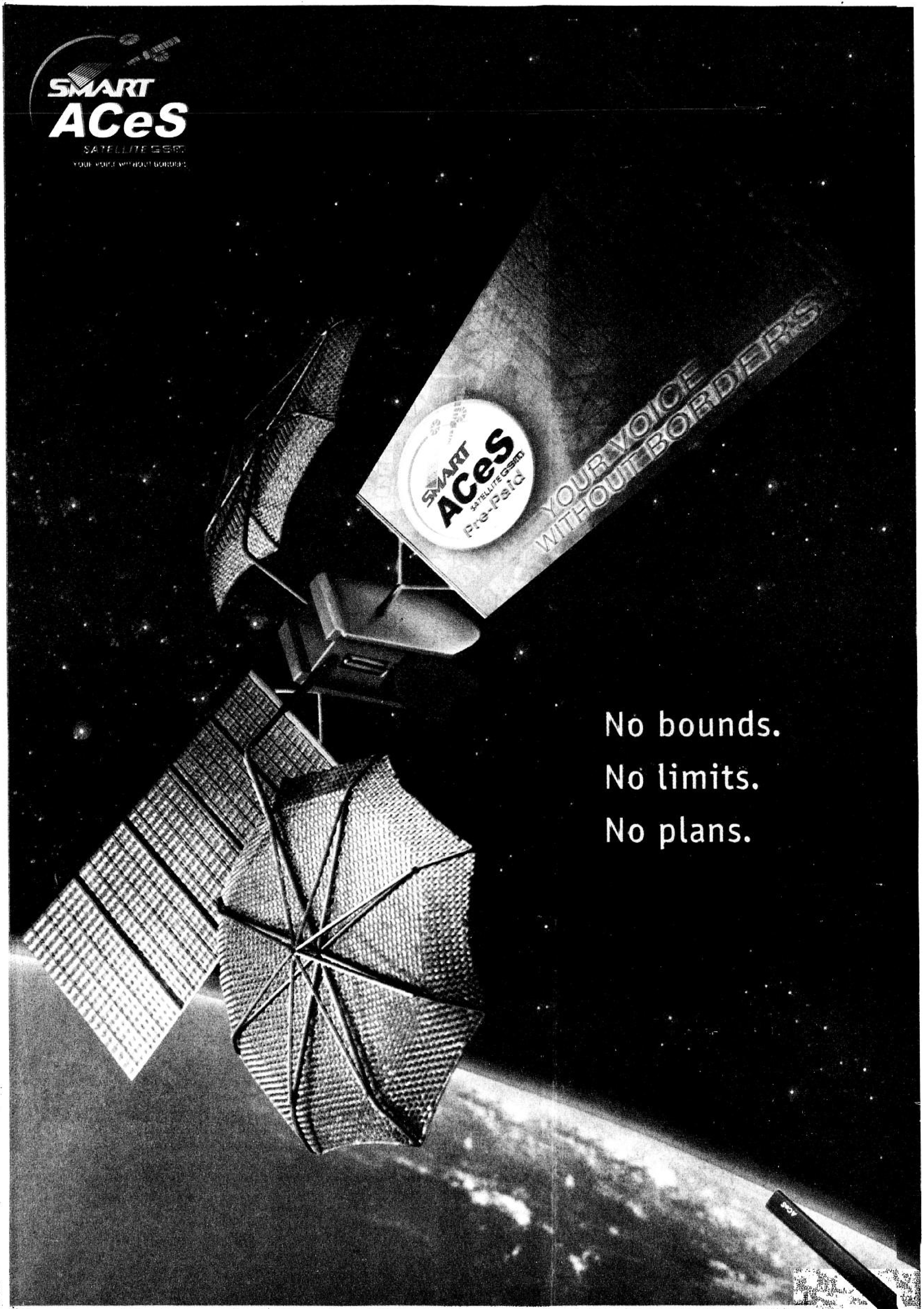
Visit National Sports Grill at the Greenbelt Mall today and experience great food, cool service and loads of fun with Astring-O-Sol Ice.

Watch out for the next Astring-O-Sol Ice guaranteed cool restaurant feature for the latest updates on the coolest dining spots in Manila

PAMURI MOA
Immigration Commissioner Andrea D. Domingo is shown signing the memorandum of agreement with the Philippine Association of Multinational Companies' Regional Headquarters, Inc. (Pamuri). Also present during the signing were (from left) I.L. Mendiola and Shameem Qurashi, Pamuri executive director and chair/president respectively; Lawyer Roy Ledesma, BI-BSI head, and Immigration Associate Commissioners Daniel C. Cueto and Arthel C. Caronongan. The MOA grants expatriates of multinational companies' regional headquarters added benefits to those already granted by the law.

E+S, EDAW EARTHASIA CONTRACT
Vic H. Manarang, (center) president and CEO of Earth+Style Corp., the lifestyle property developer, has tapped the services of Edaw Earthasia Ltd., an internationally renowned environmental design company to handle the masterplan of Jubilation New Biñan, a 155-hectare breakthrough township development project in Biñan, Laguna. Signing the contract with him are representatives of Edaw Earthasia Ltd. Stephen Engblom (left), associate/senior urban design and Sean C.S. Chiao (right), director of urban design.

UNILEVER, DOH PROMOTE WOMEN'S HEALTH
Unilever Philippines, Inc. chair Howard Belton (second from left) and Department of Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit, MD (second from right) sign the memorandum of agreement formalizing their tie-up for the "Health Promotion Day for Women" activity at the DOH compound, Manila. The "Health Promotion Day for Women" is a project sponsored by New Lifebuoy. The project's activities include providing free health information, medical consultations, services and entertainment to participants. To be staged simultaneously in Manila, Cebu and Davao on March 25, the project aims to serve a total of 60,000 participants. Also shown in front row, from left is Unilever Phils. general manager for corporate development Chito Macapagal, and DOH health promotions director Dr. Asuncion Anden. At the back row, from left, is Lifebuoy brand manager Mark Castillo and assistant brand manager Katrina Santos.



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Sunday LIFESTYLE
CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

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Celebrate Mother's Day early and get a chance to win prizes

HAVE an early Mother's Day celebration when Gift Gate and the PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER present "Me and Mom on Mother's Day" at 2 p.m., May 6, at the Glorietta Activity Center.

Children will get the chance to show off their creativity and talent at the Mother's Day Kiddie Drawing Activity. Bring your own materials—charcoal or crayons, pens or pencils. All participants will get a special certificate of participation and everyone is sure to have fun.

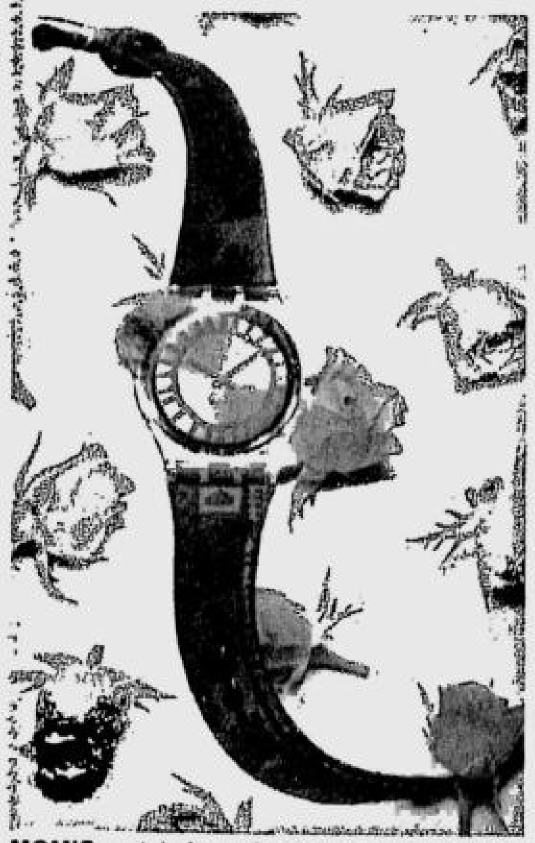
Games include the Mother's Day Trivia Contest where you can win prizes if your and your mom's answers to questions match. Match her clothes and look like the most beautiful woman in the world in the Dress-Like-Mom contest. All events are open to Gift Gate mothers and their Gift Gate kids 12 years old and under. Prizes and surprises awaiting winners include Flik Flak watches for the kids and Swatch Mother's Day Special watches for the moms.

You can also enjoy a shopping treat as you will be able to buy your Mother's Day presents from Hello Kitty, Swatch and Russ. Shoppers can have delightful family meals at Hello Kitty Café.

Also ongoing at all Gift Gates is the KinderZoo Name Game. The KinderZoo needs names for all its animals. Go see the animals live at the zoo or see their pictures at Gift Gate and give them all names. You can add your choices to "Buttercup" (Francesco Cruz) and "Toothy" (Sherry Mae Chan), the Rabbits. "Butchocoy" (Mary Guerrero) and "Petunia" (Sarah Tenorio), the Pot Belly Pigs. "Flammie" the Flamingo (Jennylyn Linco), "Sneeky" the Tortoise (Matthew Lozano) or "Clawee"" the Parrot (Andrew Pamorada).

Avoid the rush. If you would like to pre-register for any event at "Me and Mom on Mother's Day," call Cathy at 726-9076, local 501, fax 721-9327 or e-mail adandpro@giftgate.com.

FLIK-FLAK watch for art contest winners



MOM'S watch from Swatch for winner's Mom.

Better late than never

Photo credits for the story of Dave O. Valdes titled "Hope in Tubbataha" were inadvertently omitted in last Sunday's issue. Rene Abesamis, Mags Quibilan, Gutsy Tuason, Jurgen Freund and the World Wildlife Fund should have been acknowledged for the beautiful photographs. Our apologies.—Ed.

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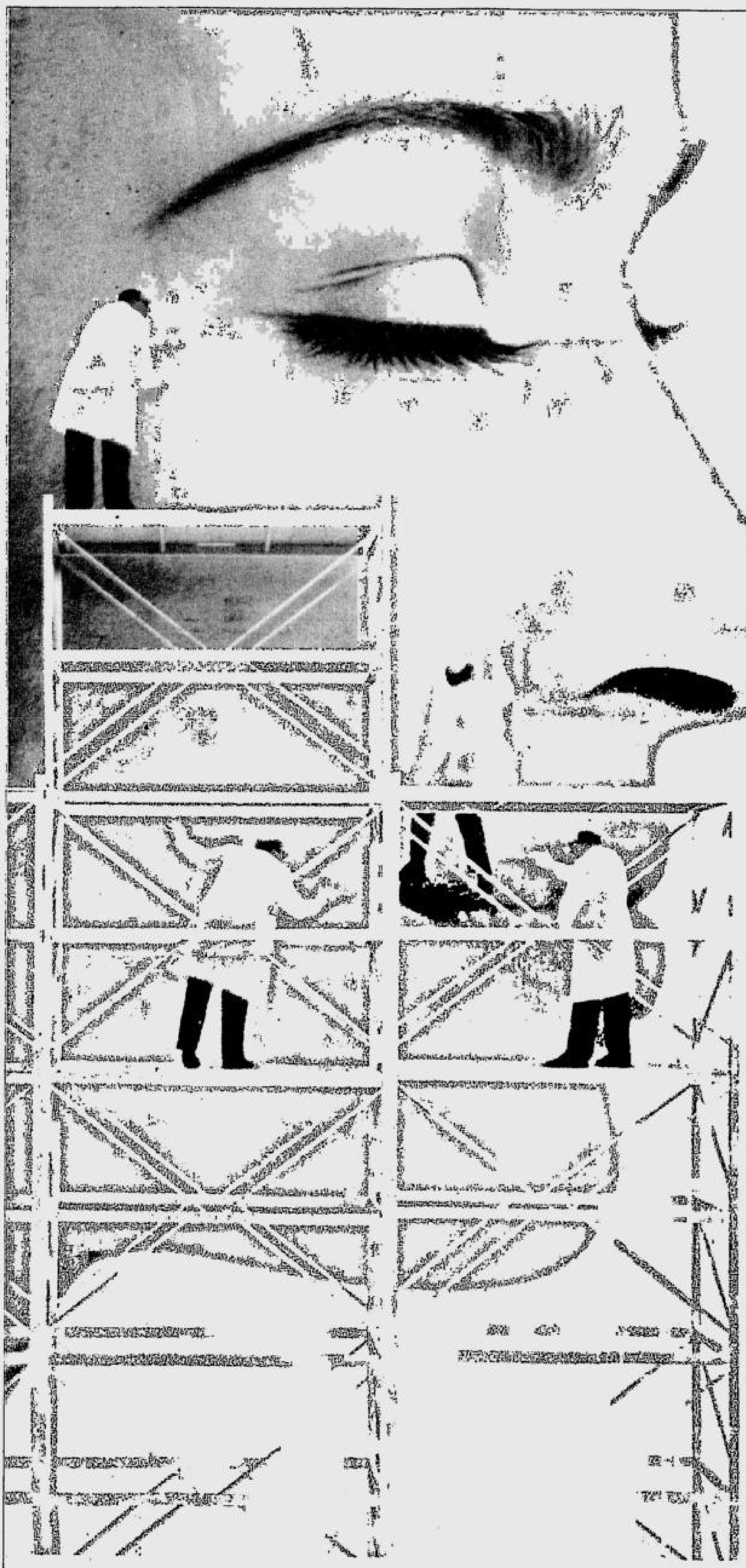

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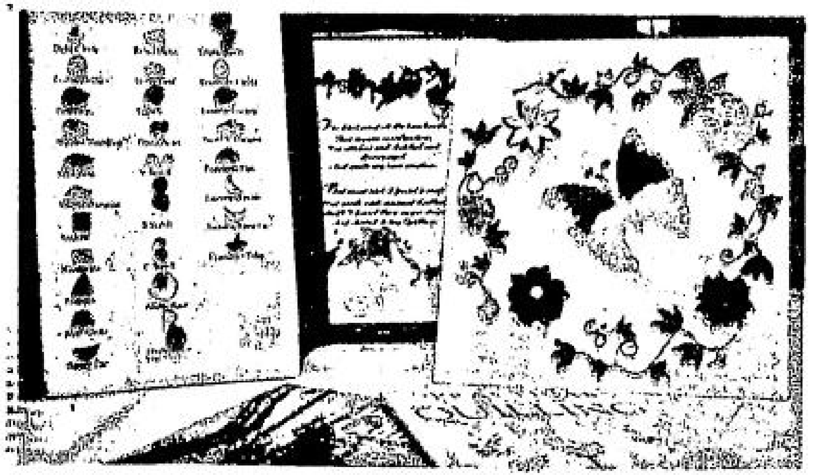
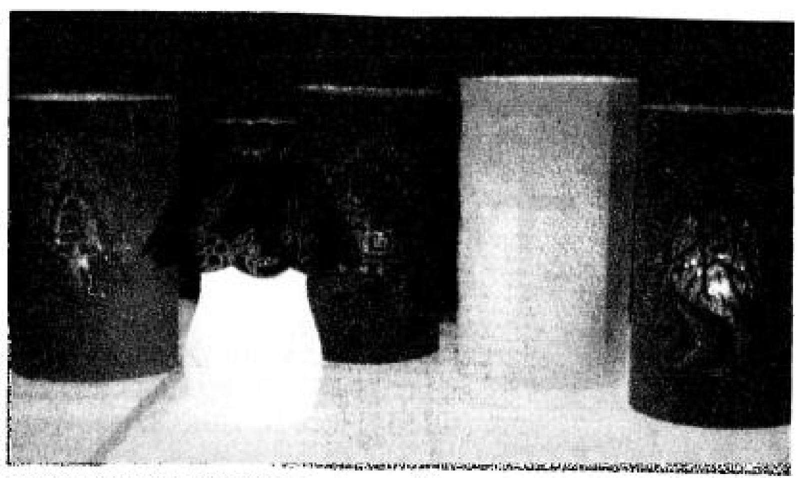


PAPER PRETTY. Embroidered paper



LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE. Perforated lamps

DAINTY paper filigree

Mecca of craft-making

By Cathy Babao Guballa
Photos by Romy Homillada

IT all began with the intricate art of cross-stitching. Back in the mid-'90s, the art of cross-stitching hit Manila and became such a huge success that there was practically a cross stitch shop in every corner of the city. Among those who pioneered those shops was a former bank executive who had a passion for arts and crafts. Bringing the art form to a higher level, Zenaida Perez, together with sons Ronnie and Bernie, were the first to introduce computer-generated cross stitch patterns to Manila. Highly popular are their designs with religious themes such as the Twin Hearts and the Mother of Perpetual Help plus two works of the esteemed Angono artist Jose Blanco—"Orasyon" and "Batalan." These very same patterns have been exported abroad and published in The Stitchery, a US mail-order catalogue where the patterns sell for no less than $50 each.

A glut in cross stitch shops caused the industry to experience a slump and so Zeny decided to branch out into other art forms. "I wanted to create a shop that would be similar to Michael's (in the US) where you can find anything and everything—classes, materials, books, supplies—relating to every imaginable craft under one roof," Zeny begins. Thus, in mid-June last year, Craft World, a craft haven tucked away in the lower level of Robinsons Galleria was born. It is the only complete crafts store of its kind within a mall in Metro Manila.

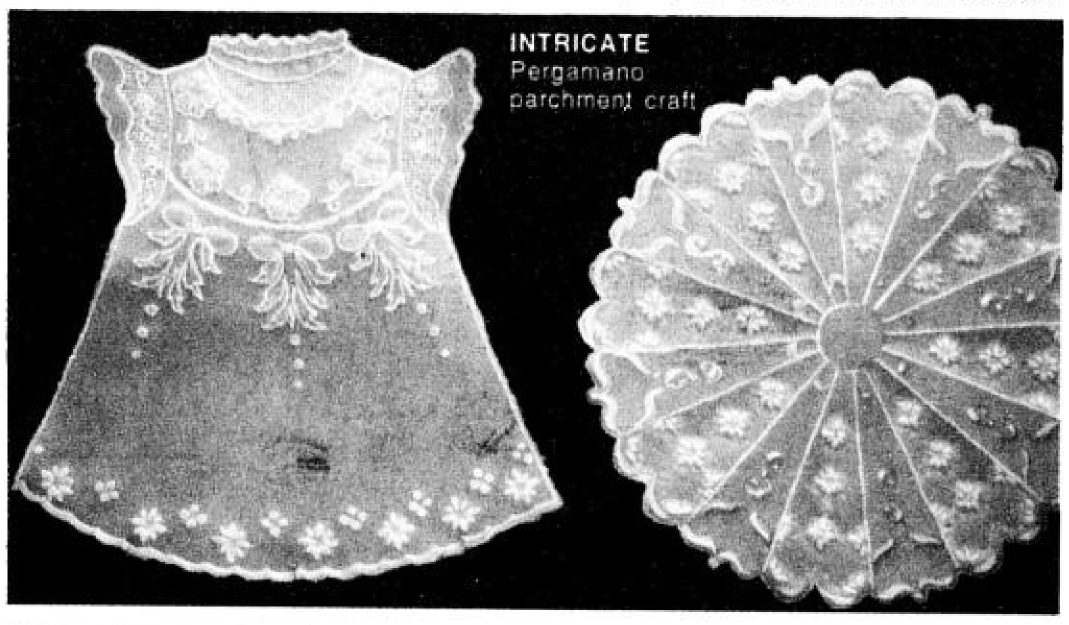
Affordable supplies

Craft World hums with activity at any given time of day, most especially on weekends. One is immediately drawn to the shop because of the pretty stained art stickers that line its glass windows. There are also lovely displays of products that result from various lessons one can take within the shop.

Once inside, it is a veritable mecca of craft supplies for candle-making, soap-making, stained sticker art, trapunto quilting, paper embroidery, tatting and the list goes on and on. There is also, of course, a special corner dedicated to cross stitch supplies. As Zeny says, "This is where it all began."

FAMILY THREE. Zenaida Perez and sons Bernie and Ronnie

Craft World has brought joy to many women and kids and boosted their self-esteem



INTRICATE Pergamano parchment craft

Materials for sale in the shop are both local and imported. There are some materials that cannot be sourced locally, such as some of the inks, paints and dyes and the cloth used for trapunto quilting and tools that do not have local counterparts, such as those used in parchment craft. As much as possible though, Zeny tries to make the various arts and crafts supplies affordable for everyone. Thus, she creates her own kits based on the ones she brings home from her trips to the US. "For example, this perforated lamp kit would normally cost P1,600 if you were to get the imported one. We've managed to create our own here and price it at P450/kit," she tells us. Imported embroidered card kits sell for P400 to P600 but a simple kit can be had for P75. "I really want to make the materials affordable for everyone," Zeny says.

CANDLE collectibles

Nothing still beats the alleys of Divisoria in terms of price and selection but if you don't want the hassle of heat or traffic, Craft World has practically every imaginable item one will need, all neatly arranged in shelves according to the particular craft. Plus, if you are totally clueless as to which type of craft you can indulge in, fret not, they've got classes here, too.

Classes

Every month, Craft World releases a list of craft classes that are reasonably priced at P200-P900 per lesson depending on the art form. Some classes run up to four hours, others are over in two. Each month, there are classes in glass etching where one can learn how to etch on curved or flat glass; paper embroidery where one learns how to embroider on paper and make personalized cards and calling cards; paper quilling or the art of paper filigree where one can make delicate and intricate paper flowers, leaves, etc. (an art form that looks much more difficult than it actually is); stained glass sticker art (a personal favorite mother-daughter bonding activity) where one learns how to make transferable stained glass stickers for windows and mirrors. This one, I learned how to do in less than 30 minutes and it is such a great stress buster at the end of the day, plus, you get to see the finished product in 24 hours! There are also classes in trapunto quilting, parchment craft, beading, candle-making (one of the most popular courses) and tatting. Classes are offered mostly on weekends and taught by Zeny and her sons. Zeny handles candle-making, parchment craft and soap-making while Bernie teaches stained glass sticker art and glass etching. The rest of the classes are mostly taught by her assistants in the shop. For Zeny, a former head of training in a bank, the classes are something she truly enjoys. "It was tough at the bank but fulfilling: 150 bank officers and 2,000 rank-and-file employees finish the training program yearly," she says looking back. Today, the classes she handles are much smaller and more personalized. "For some lessons, like candle-making, I prefer to have a maximum of 12 students. That way, they really learn and I can guide them more."

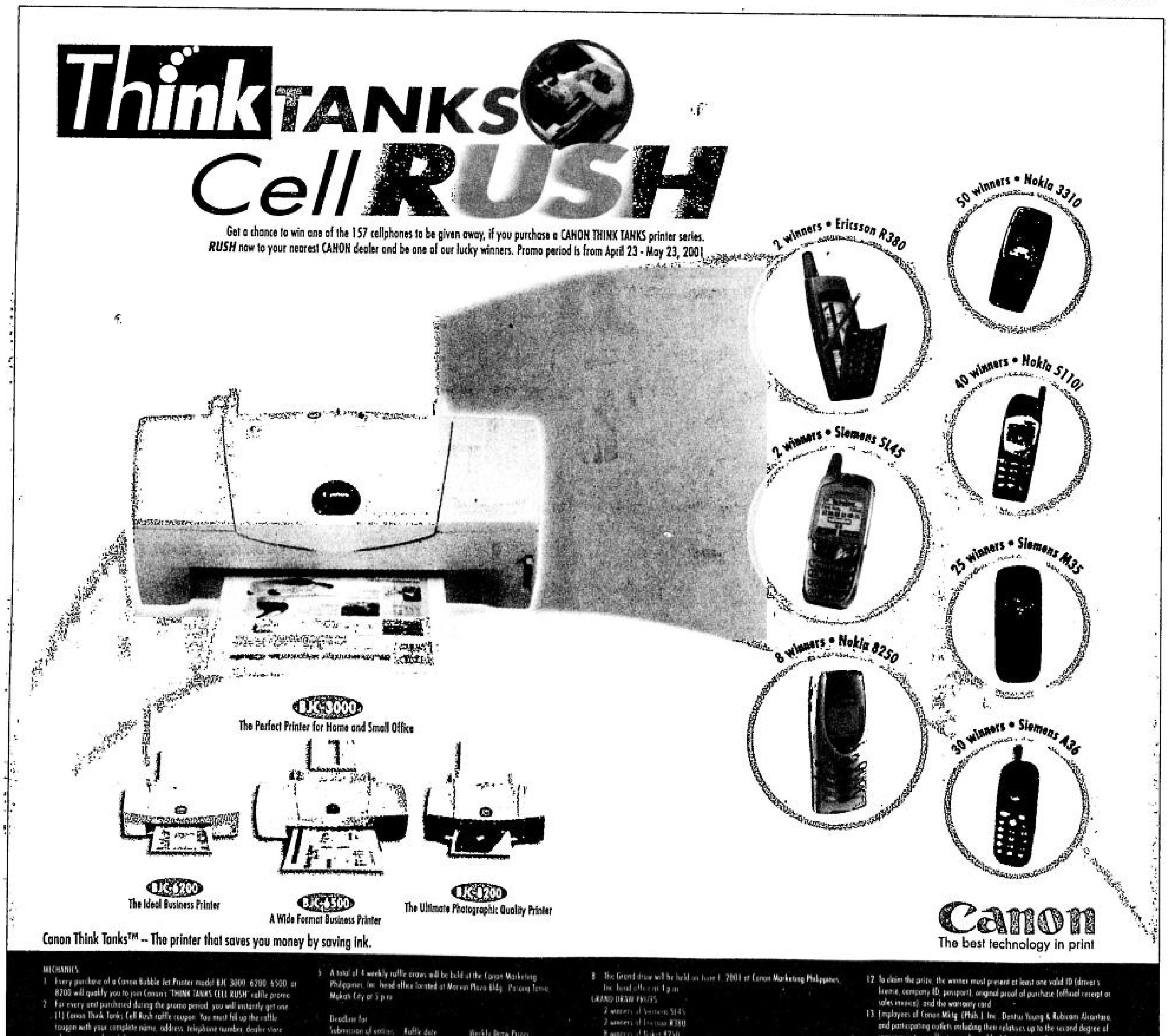
Therapeutic

Cross-stitching was something that Zeny used to indulge in as a form of therapy. After a hard day at the bank, she would unwind with her needles and thread. Though she also dabbles in tatting and découpage, cross-stitching would get her involved thoroughly. "It really helped me unwind, instead of letting out my disappointments on the household members I would just stitch them away," she says with a smile. Her sons who used to live in Canada have come home to help their mother with the business. Surprisingly, they have found craft good therapy as well.

Zeny finds joy in being able to share the gift of craft with the many women and children who come to her shop. "There is a sense of fulfillment that you get at the end of each day knowing that you have brought joy into someone's life when they learn a particular craft or skill. It is a joy that cannot be measured," Zeny explains. And of the countless women and children who continue to flock to the shop to purchase supplies or learn a new skill, undoubtedly, their creations bring them much joy and a boost to their self-esteem as well.

Craft World is located at Park Avenue, Robinson's Galleria. Call 634-5882.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph



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MECHANICS:

1. Every purchase of a Canon Bubble Jet Printer model BJC 3000, 6200, 6500, or 8200 will qualify you to join Canon's "THINK TANKS CELL RUSH" raffle promo.
2. For every unit purchased during the promo period, you will instantly get one (1) Canon Think Tanks Cell Rush raffle coupon. You must fill up the raffle coupon with your complete name, address, telephone number, dealer store where you purchased the unit, invoice no., printer model, and signature.
3. You can drop your entries at drop boxes located at designated Canon dealers in GMA or you may enclose your entries in a white legal size envelope and mail to "CANON THINK TANKS CELL RUSH" c/o Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City, Philippines (1200)
4. For provincial entries, participants must enclose their raffle coupons in a white legal size envelope and mail to the same address stated above.
5. A total of 4 weekly raffle draws will be held at the Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. head office located at Marvin Plaza Bldg., Pasong Tamo, Makati City at 5 p.m.

Deadline for Submission of entries	Raffle date	Weekly Draw Prizes
April 29	May 2	25 winners of Siemens M35
May 6	May 9	30 winners of Siemens A36
May 13	May 16	40 winners of Nokia 5110i
May 20	May 23	50 winners of Nokia 3310

6. A participant can only win once during the promo period.
7. All non-winning entries will be qualified for the succeeding weekly draws and for the grand raffle draw.
8. The Grand draw will be held on June 1, 2001 at Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. head office at 1 p.m.
GRAND DRAW PRIZES
2 winners of Siemens S45
2 winners of Ericsson R380
8 winners of Nokia 8250
9. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Prizes are not convertible to cash.
10. [illegible]
11. Prizes can be claimed at the Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. head office or at Canon provincial offices specified in the notification letter.
12. To claim the prize, the winner must present at least one valid ID (driver's license, company ID, passport), original proof of purchase (official receipt or sales invoice), and the warranty card.
13. Employees of Canon Mktg. (Phils.) Inc., Dentsu Young & Rubicam Alcantara, and participating outlets including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.
14. Promo period is from April 23 2001 to May 23, 2001 only.

DROP BOX CENTERS [illegible]

Canon Marketing Head Office Address: Canon Marketing Philippines, Inc. Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City, Philippines • Tel. Nos. 812 6012 / 812 6076 to 79 • Email address: [illegible]

Per DTI NCR Permit No. 1076 Series of 2001

Idyllic place fetes St. Michael

By Ophie Ilustre Silang

QUESTION: Where can you find a church with exquisite interior portraits by Antonio Valdueza, where the beach beckons and the sky is always blue?

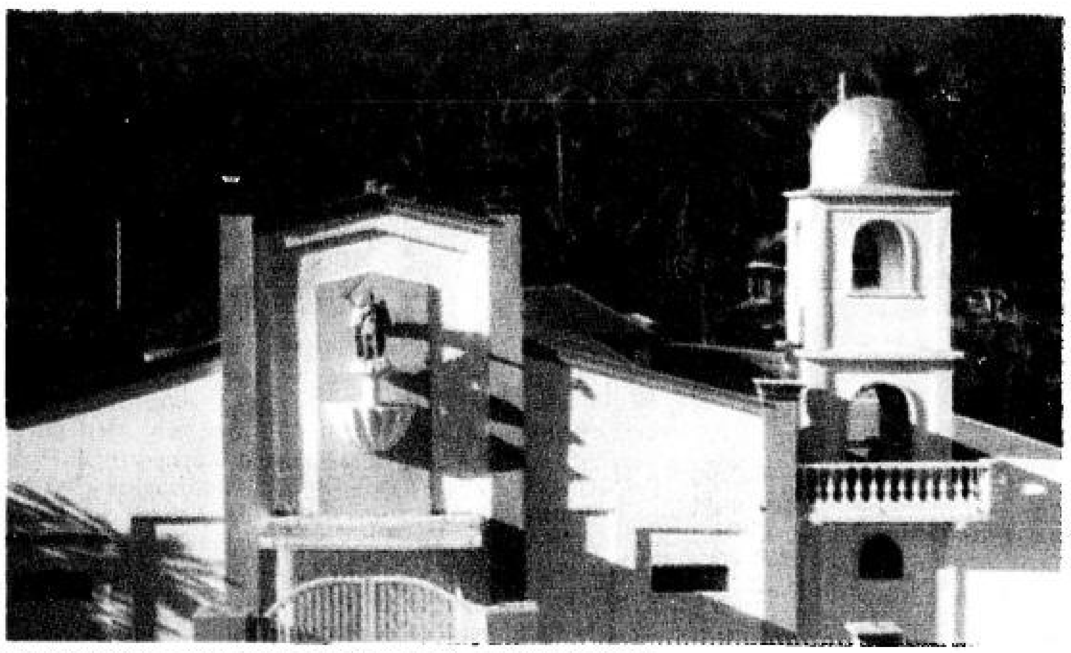
Answer: At the St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Ilijan, located 28 km south of Batangas City.

On May 8, the townspeople will hold a huge celebration on the 60th founding anniversary of their parish.

"You won't believe how excited everyone has been in getting ready for this milestone," beamed Fr. Emmanuel Vergara, the parish priest. "A lot of interior renovation—refurbishing, fixing and pounding—has been going on since last year."

And now—it's fiesta time!

The festivities will begin with a concelebrated Mass on May 8 at 9:30 a.m. to be officiated by Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales. A nine-day novena Mass, starting on April 29, will be said at 4 p.m. followed by a program presentation by each locality.



THE ST. Michael the Archangel Parish, Ilijan, Batangas City

THE ALTAR of the church

Pride and joy

The town's pride and joy is the church, and no wonder. The altar, painted in gold leaf, is graced with the images of Jesus Christ flanked by the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph. Around it is the hand-painted St. Michael and the Resurrection.

The upper part of the altar walls is adorned with paintings of the four Evangelists. The Holy Trinity is painted at the Adoration Chapel. Along the walls are the panels of the Via Crucis, or the Stations of the Cross.

St. Michael the Archangel is the head of all Archangels, the Guardian and Defender of the Church of Jesus Christ. The townspeople celebrate May 8 and Sept. 29 in his honor.

It is said that St. Michael made his apparitions on May 8 ages ago. Sept. 29 marked the day his miraculous picture was found by a woodcutter (or a fisherman—lore abound on this one). San Miguel de Arkangel is the patron saint of grocers, mariners, paratroopers, police and the sick.

The San Miguel Parish of Ilijan, Batangas City, was founded in 1941, with Rev. Fr. Nicanor Domingo as the first parish priest. The Olmos and Iturалde families donated the lot on which the old church, made of light materials, was constructed. The new church was built in 1995.

Barangay Ilijan is situated across the Isla Verde passage. It boasts of a beautiful beach with colorful coral, good for snorkeling and scuba diving.

For years, one had to ride a motorboat to reach the place. Today, jeepneys make daily trips between Batangas City and Ilijan.

Ilijan with its mountains, waterfalls, forests and beach is an idyllic place where hospitable folk live—a place "*na kinawiwilihan,*" where people enjoyed themselves and had fun. Later, this was shortened to "*wilihan*" and finally Ilijan.

Folk tales

Legend has it that Ilijan once teemed with huge trees. Woodcutters were enticed to stay and they built themselves huts. About six decades ago, so the tale goes, a woodcutter found what looked like a scroll in a hut. When he rolled it out, he saw that it was a picture of St. Michael the Archangel.

Another version tells of a fisherman spotting the rolled paper floating in the sea, surprised that it was not damaged by the seawater. He glued it to a wooden frame, where it has remained surprisingly unchanged despite the years. Today it occupies a special place in the altar.

There are many stories told and retold about some miracles by St. Michael. Once the town was hit by tidal waves as big as ships that Isla Verde could not be seen. It is said that people caught a glimpse of St. Michael atop the church roof calming the waves.

On Nov. 15, 1995, Ilijan experienced a strong earthquake. People expecting huge waves gathered in the church and prayed. And then a miracle happened. The story goes that a big portion of the sea near Ilijan dried up and the tidal waves did not materialize.

Even the rocks turned into pieces, scattering in the streets and not in the houses. But it was noted that the waves did not spare the nearby barrios, engulfing the houses.

Then there is the tale of the small bell, which fell in the deepest part of the sea as folks were on their way to return the image of their patron saint to Ilijan.

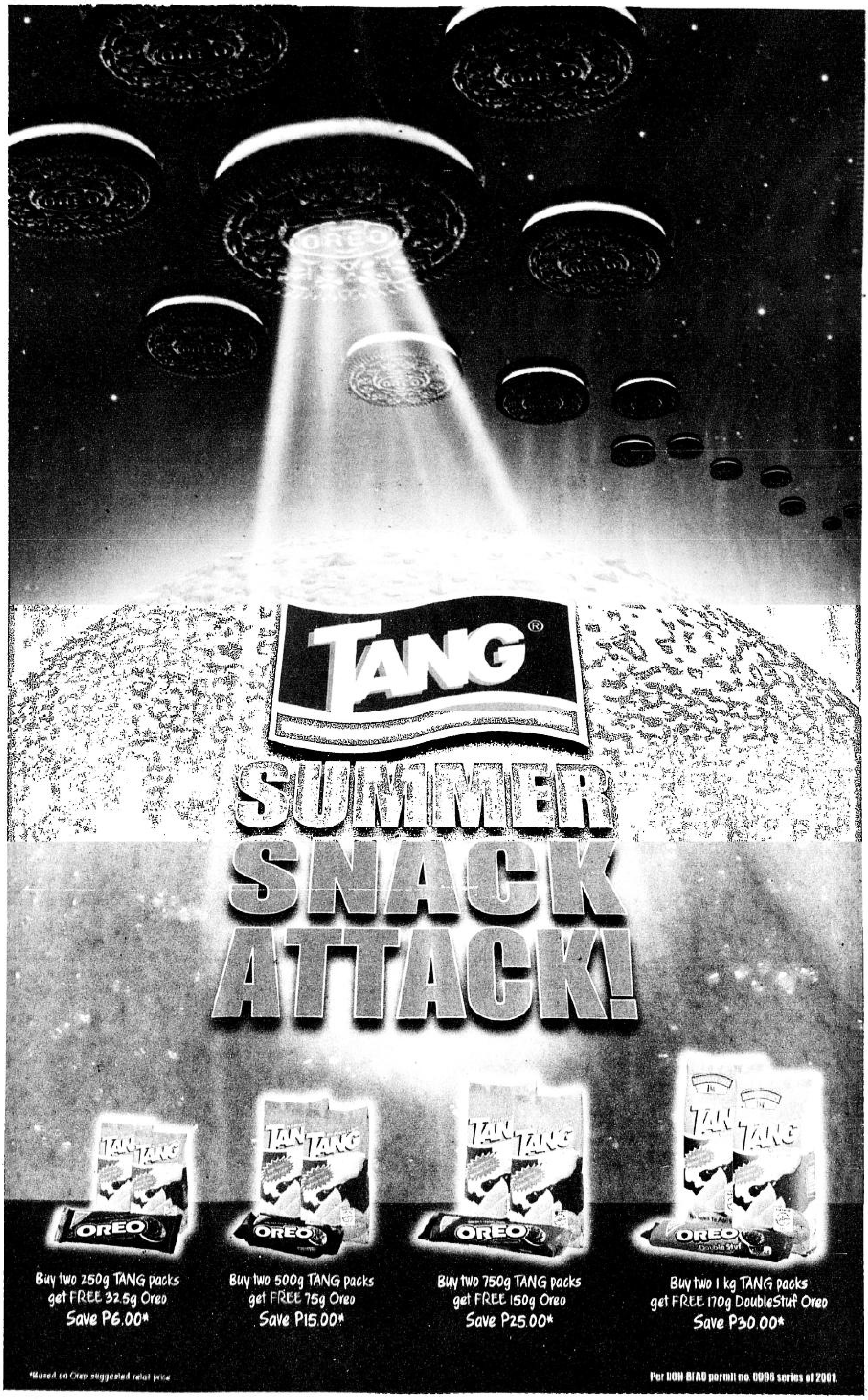
The group decided to return the icon to the church before going back to retrieve the bell. Lo and behold, they were surprised to see the bell back safely near the altar of St. Michael.

The image of St. Michael is also often loaned for a rite called the Blessing of the Vessel ("*pasakay sa poon*") before a ferry or a ship sets for its commercial sail, assuring safe voyage.

Today, Ilijan has retained its idyllic quality. But it has also become 21st-century modern. Consider: it is the site of one of the biggest power plants in Asia, with its 1,200 megawatt-capacity, combined with a cycle power plant.

The power plant is environment-friendly. It will use natural gas which is clean, safe and will not emit smoke. According to Noy Silang, Ilijan's barangay captain, once the power plant is fully operational, it will reduce electric rates in the entire country.

How apt. For in Ilijan, where one's reach can exceed his grasp to almost touch the heavens, one can see the light. Literally and figuratively.



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Managing cluttered space

THE MAD TEA PARTY

Clinton Palanca

QUITE recently, a friend of mine decided to become a secret agent. I obviously can't refer to her by name, or reveal her purported day job, as this may blow her cover. She is taking intensive training in highly useful skills such as martial arts, handling firearms, defusing bombs, speaking in code and stopping moving vehicles by hotwiring their circuits (I myself prefer to use the brakes). I don't know whether this job truly exists, or whether these are hallucinations derived from an over-vigorous whiff of nail polish remover, but I must say that this girl is highly suited for the job. She's pretty, intelligent, athletic and knows how to win at cards. The latter is, as we know, very important for secret agents since every James Bond movie has a scene set in a casino.

The only problem that I can foresee is that she tends to be a little disorganized. If, for instance, there were to be a meeting in which she had to wear a trench coat and fedora with a rolled-up newspaper under her left arm and stand (inconspicuously) at the base of the statue on the corner of Ayala and Makati Avenues, she would probably arrive 12 minutes late at the corner of Ayala and Paseo de Roxas, with a copy of Vogue under her right arm. She organizes her life by means of little yellow squares of paper with adhesive strips at the back, which she arranges according to priority. Of course, they curl up, get unattached and flutter off in the wind. Oh dear, there goes the secret code with instructions from headquarters.

Global vs linear

Her apartment, strewn with books, magazines, cigarette butts, empty instant noodle packages, lacy underwear, and so on, is testimony to this somewhat "global" method of living. This adjective derives from a particularly disorganized teacher I had some years back, who tended to ramble from topic to irrelevancy to tangential remark, and then end the lesson abruptly, as though in a French film, without ever returning to the original topic at hand. She prided herself on her "global," as opposed to linear, method of thinking and of teaching.

I myself tend to be somewhat "global" in my approach to certain things. A shopping list is anathema to me when doing a supermarket (which is, incidentally, one of my favorite things to do; I have a friend with whom I go shopping for groceries after dinner with the same eagerness with which others might hit a bar or club). Where's the fun in dashing from aisle to aisle with a specific program in mind, in search of articles on a list? There's nothing like meandering about, sniffing at various bottles of shampoo, indulging in capitalism at its finest by exercising one's right to choose between different types of cleanser, as opposed to the state-sanctioned Double Happiness or White Seagull brand that everyone in China has to use. Of course, this often means that you come home without certain essentials that tend to get overlooked with this method, such as rice, sugar and toilet paper. But hey, there's always next time, and I now have three new kinds of aloe-scented lotion.

My apartment is not just global, it's, err, universal. It's half-carpeted, by which I don't mean that the living room has parquet flooring and the bedroom is in shag, but that the wall-to-wall carpeting has been methodically torn out in large patches by my terrier. The floor is bald in large, irregular shapes, rather like land masses or continents. Sometimes, I think she is trying to draw me the map of an imaginary world. When the newspaper comes in the morning she also methodically shreds it ("chewing over the news"), and leaves little flecks of paper all over the room.

But that's just the floor. I can't blame her for the piles of things that are balanced on every flat surface in the apartment. Sanctimonious women that I sometimes take home admonish me to clean up: It's very easy, they always say; don't let things pile up, just always put them back in their proper place. But where is the proper place for, say, my Burmese cowbells? The books that I am not really reading, but might in the near future, and that I'll forget about if I put away on a shelf? Tennis racquet and balls? Necklace left behind by a girl that I keep forgetting to give back? Cambodian seal from the Khmer Rouge era? Three new bottles of aloe-scented lotion?

My cabinets are full, my shelves have double rows of books and more piled sideways on top, the refrigerator is completely packed (but there's nothing to eat; a common paradox, up there along with a closetful of clothes and nothing to wear). I dream of one day living in a huge space with shelves and wardrobes and storage to spare. The kitchen cabinets would be alphabetized, so that Cleaning Agents would be next to Cream of Mushroom Soup, which would be beside Commonly Used Utensils. My library would be arranged by the Library of Congress cataloguing system. All my clothes would be hanging in neat rows and all of them would fit.

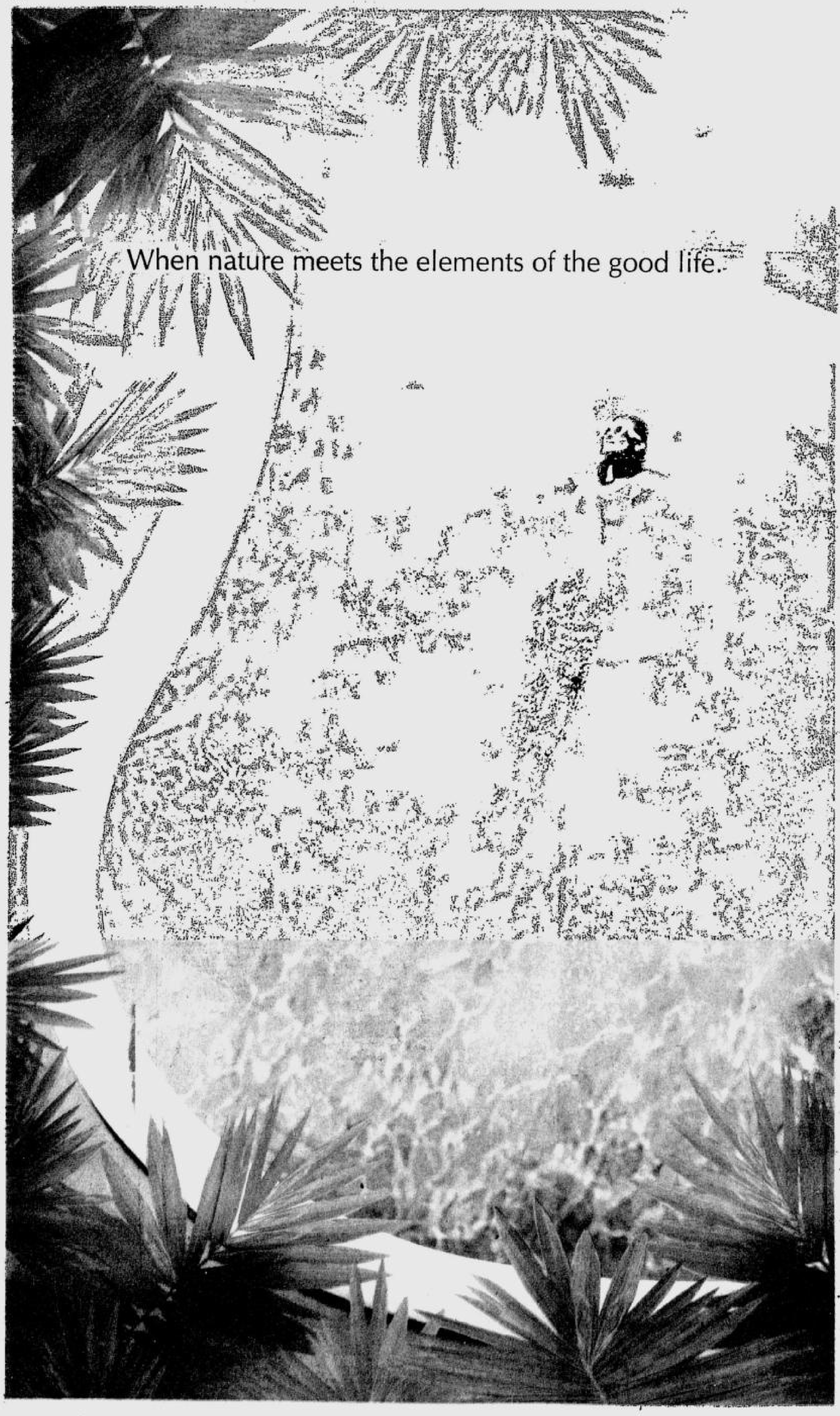
They say that the solution is edit, edit, edit, which to me sounds like throw away, throw away, throw away. I can't bear to do that. And if I had a huge house to myself, I'd probably think, well, I've all that space anyway, and then would buy things like 10-ft high bongo drums, or perhaps an entire reclining buddha for the hallway. As a friend put it, there's nothing as safe and as comfortingly predictable as things. You can blow your money on an experience, like diving or hot-air ballooning, and it'll all be over once it's over, and even the memory will disappear should you lose your photographs or get bonked on the head. You can spend money on taking out girls, then they'll dump you and you'll feel cheated on all that money you spent on dinners and champagne and flowers, and there's no Consumer Protection Agency to complain to. But things will always be there. They are the unmoving constants in an unstable world. Rilke knew the importance of Things; he always spelled it with a capital, or at least his translator did, since he wrote in German.

Meanwhile, though, they're taking over my world. I don't choose things; they find me. And then they run loose. Once in a while I go on a Teutonic streak and attempt to put order in my life and in my living space, but it never works. Things like Palm Pilots help people who are naturally organized to begin with. If I bought one then its contents would soon be hopelessly disorganized, and soon it would join the rest of the junk cluttering the apartment. Somehow, though, I do manage to live and eat in this cluttered space; somehow I manage to find things (occasionally several years after I started looking for them); and somehow, I do manage to run my life and meet appointments and deadlines without the use of a Palm Pilot, or even sticky bits of paper.

I actually think I'd make a pretty fine secret agent; I already have a trench coat and a fedora from the Indiana Jones souvenir shop. In fact, perhaps I am a secret agent, and this "friend" of mine doesn't really exist; I just do restaurant reviews as a cover. Perhaps this column, by counting the number of times the word "the" appears, contains instructions for meeting the Chinese double agents in order to exchange a microfilm for satellite locator chips.

Or perhaps I'm just really, really tired from trying to clean up my place over the Holy Week vacation, and discovering that, metaphorically enough, my life doesn't fit into the space provided for it.

E-mail the author at clinton@i-manila.com.ph



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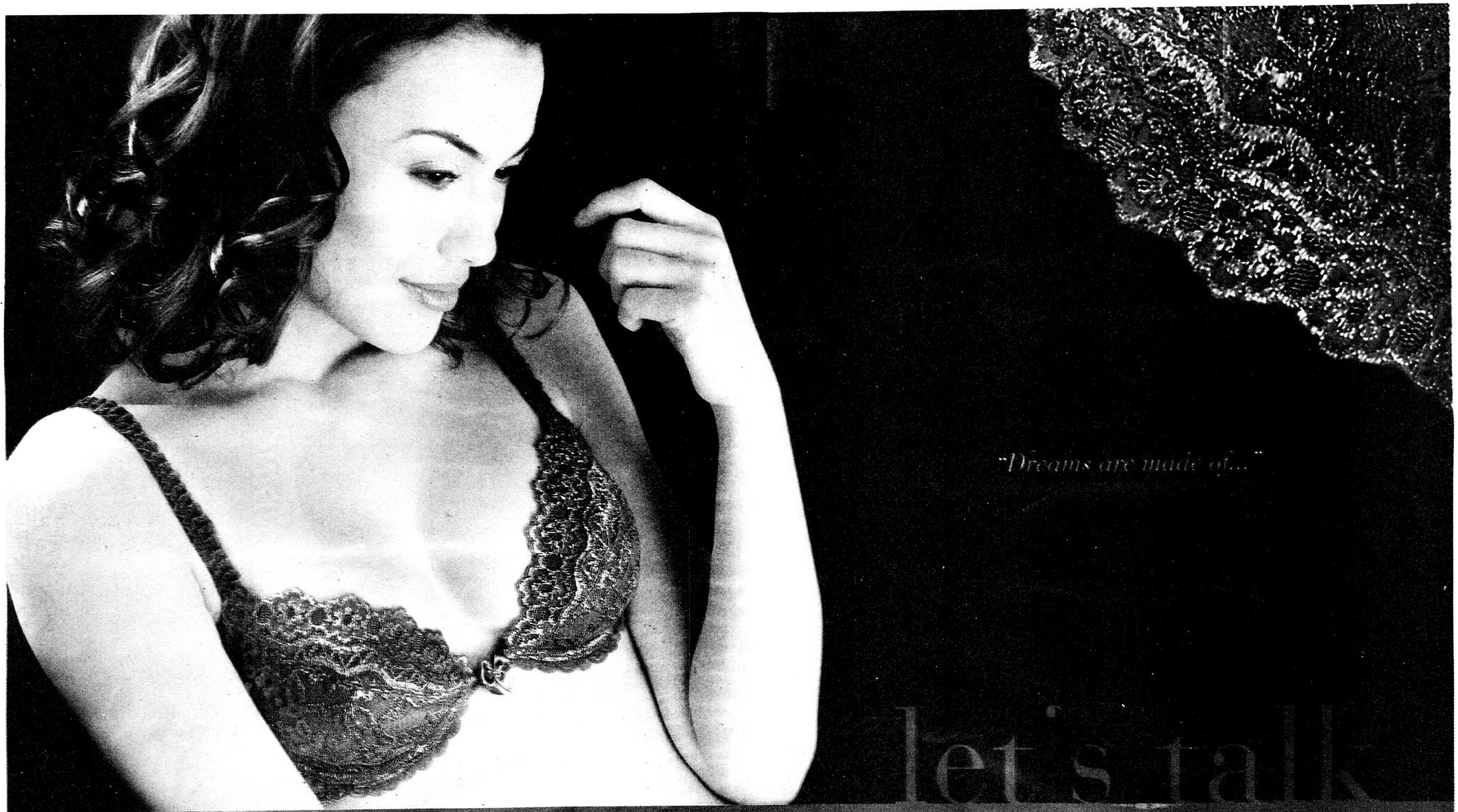

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A CHILD from Pampanga (left photo) with her bundle of gifts which includes toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, soap, T-shirts, noodles, candies, bread and toys from Cabalen during its annual gift-giving activity, the "Cabalen Para Sa Kabataan." Maritel Nievera, Cabalen president and CEO, headed the gift-giving (above) at Barangay Pulung Maragul in Angeles City, Pampanga attended by 600 children

CABALEN Para Sa Kabataan outreach team headed by Nievera (standing, second from right) during gift-giving at Barangay Pulung Maragul in Angeles, Pampanga with the assistance and support of Pampanga team headed by Pamintuan. (center)

Helping the children all she can

EVERY year since lahar first brought grief and gloom to the towns of Pampanga, Maritel Nievera, the woman behind the Cabalen chain of restaurants, has used a percentage of Cabalen's sales to purchase goods for distribution during the love month of February the following year.

These goods—food, medicine, clothing, toys and other items for daily use—are given to children of depressed areas. "This is our way of sharing with the underprivileged and poor," explains Nievera.

The outreach program began in 1996 when Mt. Pinatubo erupted, rendering thousands of Pampangueños homeless as lahar covered homes, churches and buildings. Depressed at the sight of her distraught *kabalens*, Maritel donated truckloads of goods worth P350,600 raised from the "Cabalen Para Sa Mga Cabalen" fund drive. Some 1,200 families in resettlement areas received food, medicine, clothing and blankets.

CHILDREN are the beneficiaries of Cabalen's annual gift-giving.

In 1997, Nievera focused on the young, renaming its program "Cabalen Para Sa Kabataan." It went to the resettlement areas of Panipuan and Malino in San Fernando, Pampanga, distributing gift packs containing food, clothing, grooming needs and school items.

In 1998, Cabalen brought clothes and toys to children of the Bulaon Day Care resettlement area in San Fernando, Pampanga.

In 1999, "Cabalen Para Sa Kabataan" brought cheer to the children of Barangays Catmon and Tonsuya in Malabon, who received gift packs containing T-shirts, towels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, assorted toys, goodies and candies.

Last year, Nievera shifted to three other barangays of Malabon—Concepcion, Baritan and Bayanbayanan, bringing gift packs as well as a medical service mission headed by a *balikbayan* specialist from California.

Last February 2001, the outreach program went to the children of Barangay Pulung Maragul in Angeles, Pampanga bringing food, clothing and toys.

When you eat-all-you-can at any of Cabalen's chain of restaurants (West Avenue, QC; SM Megamall, Mandaluyong; Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati; Katipunan Avenue, Blue Ridge, QC; Robinsons Place, Ermita; SM City North Edsa; SM City Manila and Sta. Lucia Mall in Cainta), you help all you can.

CCP marks Day of Dance today

INTERNATIONAL Dance Day or Araw ng Sayaw will be marked today with four main events at the Main Theater of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP).

Set within the National Dance Week (April 23-30), proclaimed by former President Fidel Ramos in 1993, IDD coincides with the birthday of ballet performer Jean Georges Novrre.

IDD activities begin at 7 p.m. with the launching of the book "Dance in Revolution, Revolution in Dance" from the 1998 International Dance Conference of WDA-Asia Pacific in Manila. Editor Basilio Esteban S. Villaruz, president of WDA-Philippines and WDA-AP, will be assisted at the launching by Corazon G. Iñigo, CCP artistic director and CIOFF-Philippines president.

A gala performance is scheduled for 8 p.m. featuring the country's leading companies.

Awarding of the Pasasalamat ng Bayan sa Sayaw to 2001 honorees will be held next. Honorees are Tony Llacer and Benjamin Villanueva Reyes (posthumous) in ballet, Prosperidad Arandez in folk dance, and dance photographer Rudy Vidad in interdisciplinary. PBS was started by the NCCA Dance Committee five years ago in Cebu.

Two posthumous certificates of appreciation will be presented to Mario Recto in ballet (Cebu and Chicago) and Crisostomo Barrera in folk dance (Capiz and Iloilo).

Admission to all IDD events is free. Call the CCP Performing Arts Department at 831-3415, 832-3657, 832-1125 to -29, or Halili Cruz Center at 372-4607 or 413-0804.

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4. Deadline for the submission of entries is on May 19, 2001. Raffle draw is on May 25, 2001. There will only be five raffle draw winners.
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PACIFIC INTERNET

NATIONAL Security Adviser Roilo Golez (fourth from left) leads the ribbon-cutting assisted by Tony Ang, Roelof Lamberts, Thomas Bauer, Martin Nievera, Felix Ang and Axel Gohner.

CATS president Felix Ang, Kris Aquino, Zsa Zsa Padilia, Roelof Lamberts and Thomas Bauer

If it's beautiful, it must be a Benz

EXCITED guests held their collective breaths as they awaited the unveiling of Mercedes-Benz's newest addition: the C-class sports coupe, touted as the dream come true for those who want dynamic driving backed by impeccable quality.

The night's festivities were emceed by Butch Gamboa. The ribbon-cutting ceremony and official opening of the new showroom was led by National Security Adviser Roilo Golez, concert king Martin Nievera, Daimler Chrysler regional sales managers Roelof Lamberts (passenger cars) and Thomas Bauer (commercial vehicles), Sanden Philippines president Tony Ang and CATS president Felix Ang.

The event was highlighted by an audio-visual presentation and the ceremonial giving of tokens of appreciation to the first four buyers of the C-class sports coupe.

Zsa Zsa Padilla entertained guests with a performance (with the special participation of Ang), together with a dance number by the Hot Legs.

Maxine and Cookie Chua entertained guests as they viewed the cars.

Other dignitaries present that night were the German embassy's First Secretary Axel Gohner, Consul Vicente Carlos and his son Dax.

Also seen were Belle Corp. president Greg Yu, Fortune Packaging's Ben Yam, IO KTV president BG Gonzales, Lamoiyan Corp.'s Cecilio Pedro, Louie Ysmael, Archie King and Commercial Motors chair Charles Lee and president Jaime Lee.

Kris Aquino was there as was fashion icon Tina Maristela-Ocampo, with husband Ricco. Another power couple, Rikki and Beng Dee, were also there.

The two-door sports coupe takes its place alongside the saloon version with its dynamic lines, soft rounded forms, pleasing color and perfect ergonomics.

The sports coupe comes with two supercharged engines with displacements of 2.0 and 2.3 liters. By using a new mounting system, the supercharger works without the need for an electromagnetic clutch.

The new C-class sports coupe is at CATS Motor Showroom on Edsa, Greenhills San Juan. CATS Motors Inc. is the country's leading full Mercedes-Benz authorized dealership that showcases the latest and complete models, and offers full-factory warranty, complete after-sales service, a body and paint shop, a Mercedes-Benz boutique and original parts and accessories.

CMI also complements and serves the automotive needs of their Mercedes-Benz patrons in the South in their branch located on Alabang-Zapote Road, Las Piñas City (in front of the Perpetual Help Hospital).

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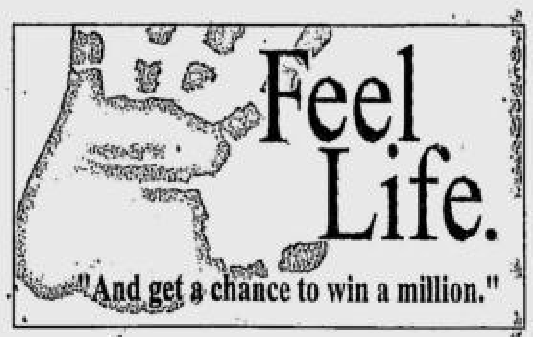
Trends & Trendings


Feel Life.
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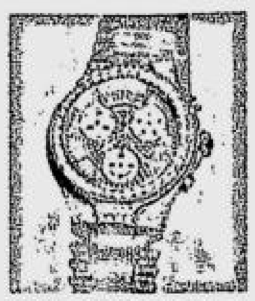
Technomarine watch for trendophiles, look stylish even at 50 and an ex-Mare gets dizzy with a live show

BY ANTON SAN DIEGO

MUST-HAVE watch—Technomarine. It's the hottest and most fun watch to have in recent years, equally good-looking to wear in bars as well as under 200 meters of water. Established in 1997, Technomarine has captivated trendophiles and style setters (such as **Madonna, Barbara Streisand, Prince Albert, Lenny Kravitz** and **Sharon Stone**) with its technological precision, craftsmanship and design. Its techno-diamond watch (diving watch with diamond-encrusted face) won an award in the Basel watch show as one of the most innovative products. The watch comes in interchangeable colored bands such as alligator or PVC-treated hypoallergenic rubber strap and in 100 different styles for men and women.



MUST-HAVE WATCH. Technomarine, the hottest watch.

***Matronas*: Fashion dos and don'ts for women who don't know how to dress their age.** It has come to a point in our society when you don't know the real ages of women anymore. Thanks to plastic surgery, botox and liposuction, more and more women over 50 look like they are 30, and some women in their 30s look, well, like *matronas*. Nothing wrong there, you say, but when a grandmother of over 55 thinks she can still dress like **Britney Spears**, then this is cause for alarm. Some may argue that it's sure better than having high aqua-net hair, shoulder pads, multicolored pants and blouses.

Point taken. But at a fashion show at the Fort for a high-end Italian company, I saw some fiftysomething women who were wearing backless tops (think **Jennifer Lopez**), but these J. Lo wannabes had skin sagging on all sides. Not a pretty sight especially when they raised their arms or sat down. I am a stickler for women who dress their age. Think **Jackie O, Lee Radziwill**, or on our shores, **Mary Prieto**. So, here's a list of dos and don'ts for mature women.

Don't:

- Wear collars or clothes that are too tight or you will end up looking like a *longganisa*.
- Over accessorize. Okay, we know you are rich, but you might end up looking more like an Esperanza's (flower shop) creation than a human being.
- Exaggerate your makeup. Some women have been stuck with that **Madeline Mono** look (Read racoon eyes) that it's not flattèring anymore and some cases is quite scary.
- Wear anything that you might have worn in your teens, high school and the early college years as well.
- Show skin if gravity has had more of an effect on you than others.
- Wear hats unless you are going to a British wedding or you are British.
- In any circumstance wear spandex. Enough said.

Do:

- Wear black. It's slimming and stylish and elegant.
- Wear colors that are flattering on you. Word of caution: Some colors are tricky and are veritable landmines as one could notice flaws more easily.
- Wear jewelry that's appropriate for the occasion.
- Experiments, since you can't dress like a teenager, it doesn't mean you can't try new looks, but go for that stylish, elegant look.
- Seek advice from stylists and designers.

Stars to close. Everyone's favorite hangout where people watch and not to mention, see aspiring actresses fight. Stars at the Glorietta is set to close by the end of the month. It will be replaced by a new restaurant, or if negotiations are ripe, might be under new management. According to the dynamic and overall nice guy **EJ Litton**, "It's time for the sun to shine and the stars to fade." So what happens next? Where will Manila's party people hang out? Not sure, but no matter where EJ goes, the crowd will follow. He actually has something brewing in Rockwell soon.

Diary of Constance Brooke San Lorenzo vda. de Pendelton. This week, our intrepid socialite and former Mare goes a bit off tangent as, on her way to Polk Street, she finds herself in the Greenhills *tiangge*. Nope, she is not looking for those South Sea pearls US Vogue wrote about. Besides, she has tons of them. She is in search of the much debated, hyped movie involving a helicopter scene. Much to her surprise, it was no "Platoon."

"Well, after all this hullaballoo of being on the campaign trail, this lady just had to get some R&R. So, I moseyed off to visit **Loi** over at Polk Street, when I saw all this commotion at the gate. At first, I just thought there were irate people who wanted to get in the village but did not have a sticker, then I found out they arrested dear ol' **Joseph**. So instead of going there, I did the next best thing: I went to Virra Mall and bought myself a VCD of that movie everyone's talking about—yes "Live Show"—and for only 60 bucks. I know what you're thinking but as my dad would always say, "Better late than never." He was never an original. The movies all came labelled "Toro" which didn't fool me, honey! The movie was not the sort of movie my mama would have allowed me to watch but I just had to see it after all the talk and furor. Especially after seeing my

TECHNOMARINE/ p.D2

HAPPY TIMES
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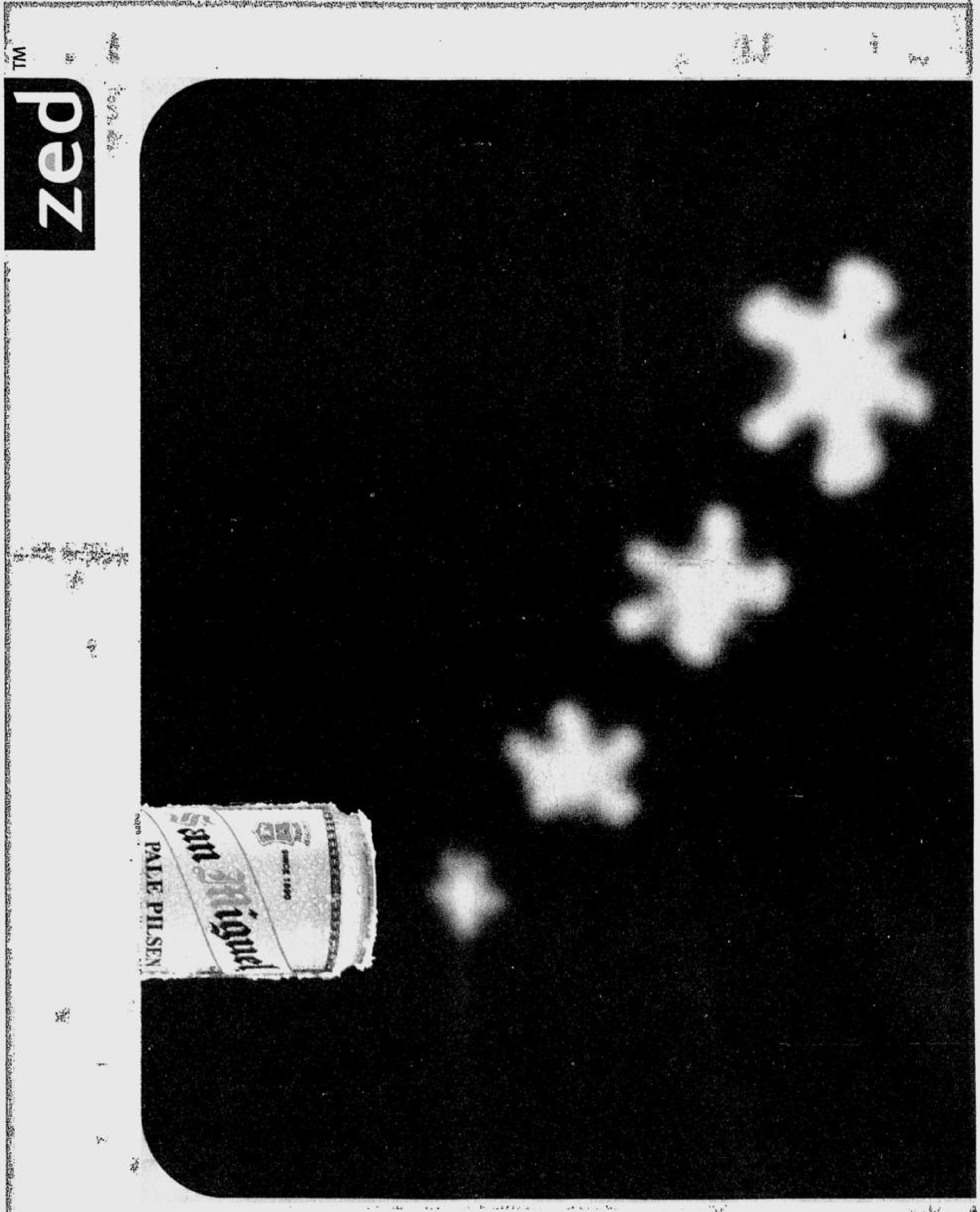

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May 11
"SMB Bikini Open",
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Featuring: Hottest SMB babes from Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Surigao, Gen. Santos, Cotobato, Butuan and the rest of the region

May 12
"SMB Rock and Reggae",
Kabuntud Beachfront
Featuring The Dawn, Sandwich, Spy and Brownbeat All-Stars

PUERTO GALERA
May 25
"Search for SMB Bikini Beach Buddies",
White Beach

May 26
"SMB Unplugged",
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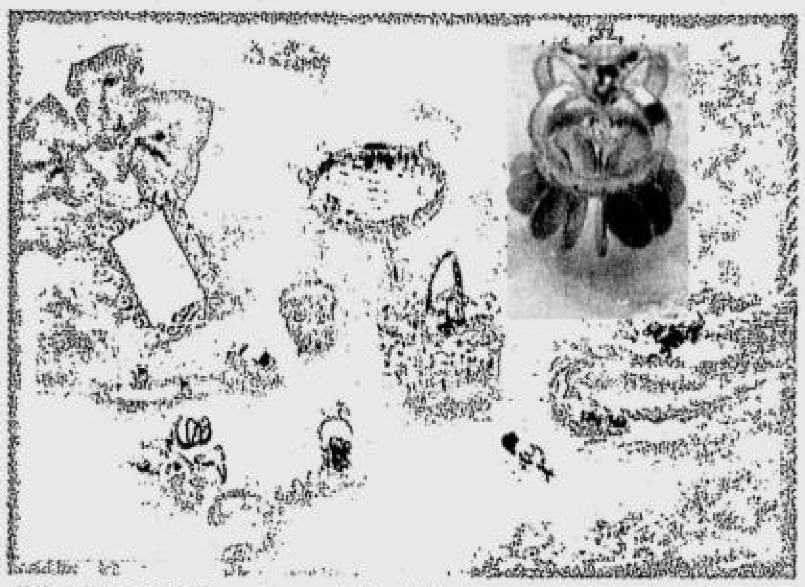
Silver souvenirs to seal a special day



EYE-CATCHING and exquisite bridal ornaments, souvenirs and accessories from Silver Dreams include woven baskets, miniature picture frames, pendants, brooches, clasps and accents to dress up the cord, and clips for pinning the veil.

EVERY time we attend a wedding, we usually have three questions in mind: who designed the bridal gown, where the reception will be and what tokens the newlyweds will give away. Not surprisingly, amid the commotion of fittings, purchases, orders and rehearsals, the wedding token often lands at the bottom of the priority list, if not the budget.

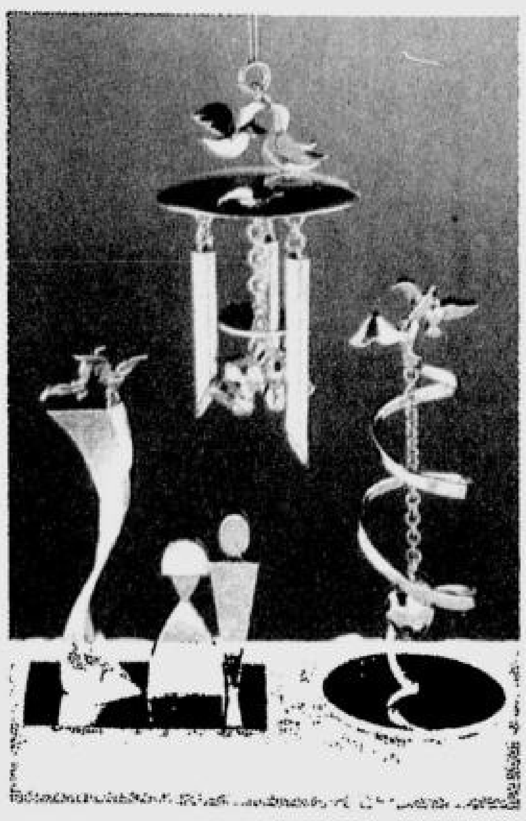
"*Sayang*," remarks jewelry designer Charlie Aquino, stressing the significance of those little mementos. "This token of gratitude is the newly married couple's way of thanking relatives and friends for sharing that memorable occasion with them," he observes. "It also serves to remind us of an important day that should, hopefully, be remembered fondly in the years to come."

With this in mind, Charlie's firm—CJ Jewellers—developed the Silver Dreams line of wedding tokens and accessories for millennial couples who want to seal their special day with unique keepsakes: Exquisitely crafted ornaments, with designs ranging from elegant to whimsical, all fashioned in silver.

"*Nakita ko kasi na wala pa masyadong nagke-cater sa* higher-end clients, so we started designing wedding accessories and trinkets in sterling silver," explains the young entrepreneur. The choice of silver, he says, is a concession between quality and affordability. "Usually, if you want souvenirs in metal, you'll get them in brass. But brass is not valuable and it gets discolored over time. On the other hand, gold would be too expensive for most young couples. Silver is the best bet—it carries a reasonable price tag but is second only to gold in its worth, so whatever you give out on your wedding day will be cherished for a long time."

And what exactly can we find in the Silver Dreams' treasure chest of souvenirs? Early favorites are decorative trinkets anyone would adore: a woven basket with tiny floral accents; a unique *bilao* that doubles as a candy dish; a miniature tray decked with champagne and grapes; a bride-and-groom table ornament with a modern twist; a heart suspended from a pendulum framed by cascading ribbons and an exquisite wind chime of bells and doves.

If the couple want giveaways suitable for daily use, Charlie suggests key chain, with a variety of pendants, like miniature Bibles or doves and baskets. For something more exotic, they might fancy the Chinese character for "love" as accent. Alternatively, they can also use their own initials instead. There are also miniature picture frames with lace-like fringes, delicate butterfly-shaped brooches and satin ribbons adorned with either a pair of bells or a tiny whistle.



WHIMSICAL wedding trinkets from Silver Dreams include this bride-and-groom table ornament with a modern twist; a heart suspended from a pendulum framed by cascading ribbons; and an exquisite wind chime of bells and droves.

Priced at just over P100-P500 apiece, they are quite a steal for daintily crafted wedding tokens, each one a precious keepsake to have and to hold.

And since they also create traditional jewelry like wedding bands and bridal earrings and necklaces, Charlie says they can design an entire custom-made set—from the rings down to the tokens—in matching motif.

"I think every couple wants to be unique," he observes, "and that's how personalized our service can get."

For the ceremony itself, Silver Dreams offers a set of arrhae (13 silver-dipped coins dangling from a crown-shaped dome), enchanting heart-shaped clasps and tiny cylindrical accents to dress up the cord, and delicate silver clips for pinning the veil.

No greenhorn

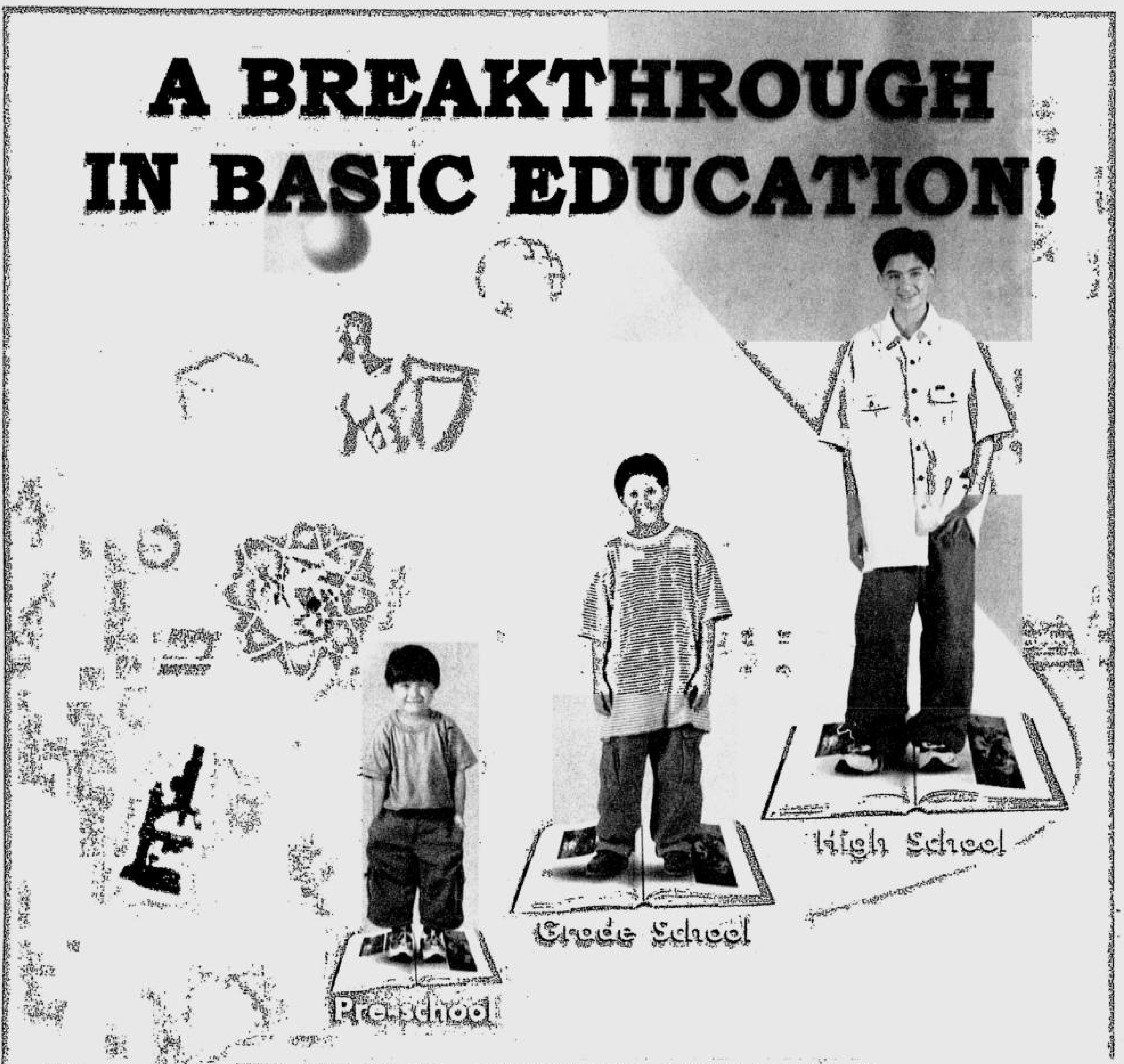
At 35, Charlie is not exactly a greenhorn in the jewelry industry. The son of Meycauayan goldsmiths, he grew up tinkering around the family shop, observing how folks ran the factory and learning the ropes of designing while watching the craftsmen. After his parents retired, Charlie took it upon himself to revive the family business.

In 1990, he put up his own jewelry trading firm with an initial capital of P6,000. Within three months, he was able to raise P40,000, which went into creating a small workshop with three craftsmen. By 1998, he already had a factory manned by 12 workers. But just as swiftly, the young entrepreneur was hit by a stroke of bad luck. "We got whacked by the regional crisis at the time," he sadly recounts. "We had no choice but to trim down operations. *Pero ngayon*, things are looking up again and the market trend is very encouraging. That's why we've decided to expand our product line and, hopefully, create a new niche."

After a decade of catering mostly to wholesale buyers, Charlie is now bent on strengthening the presence of his own design label. In 1999, he hired an in-house artist, Ferdz Gabriel, whose entry to the wedding category of the 1st Philippine Fine Jewelry Design Competition bagged the top prize for CJ Jewellers. Heartened by this early triumph, Charlie and Ferdz went on to develop more original designs revolving around the motif of marriage.

"We're still coming up with more designs in time for the bridal months of June and December," says Charlie. Meanwhile, engaged couples or the plain curious can get an eyeful of the Silver Dreams collection at the bridal fair set to open on April 30 at the Makati Shangri-La where, aside from their distinctive ceremonial charms and souvenirs, a wide collection of wedding rings and bridal jewelry will also be on display.

Call CJ Jewellers at (044) 840-1888 or (0917) 919-8888.



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Technomarine watch . . .

(From page D1)

good friend **Armida** in her usual feisty self defending her beliefs. I remember so well when she was a teenager and I was like 7-8 years old, singing "Mutya ng Pasig" by a creek. I learned the first rule of diplomacy upon hearing her, move along. Anyway, she was up against her nemesis: that man with bad hair **Manoling**. It excited me so much that I just had to see what the movie was all about. Oh, how I remember the tirades and dagger stares they gave one another, that was fun!

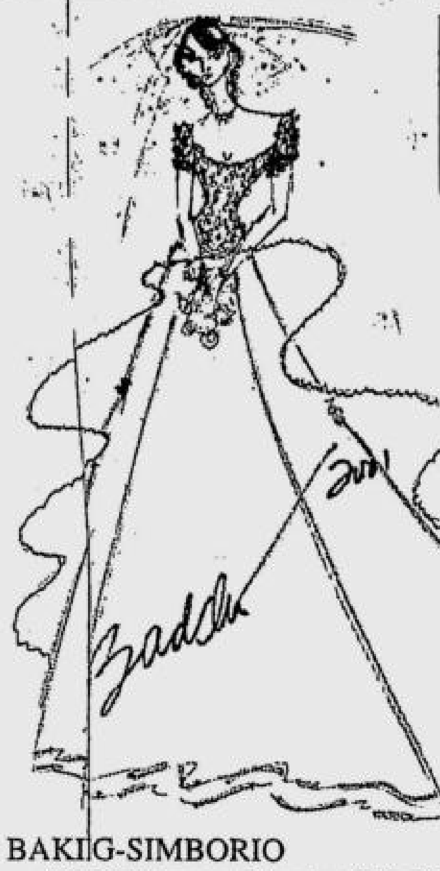
"Upon watching the movie, let me just say that I got dizzy. Wasn't sure if it was because of all those ceiling fans or the vodka in my bloodstream. I won't comment on the virtues (or non-virtues) but I will say some of those actresses are real acrobats—and I don't mean Cirque du Soleil. But don't you think all this has just generated more publicity for the movie? I mean, why ban it when anybody can pick it up for 60 bucks? We really have a warped mentality. All I can say about **Cardinal Sin** is, "He don't play the game he no make the rules," as they say in sunny Italy.

Postscript: Now that the whole "Live Show" issue is over (is it?) and everyone is thinking about how Erap looks behind bars let me leave you with a piece of my wisdom: 'Don't live in a village where ex-Presidents live, especially if you have perfectly landscaped front lawns. It's just going to be trampled upon by overzealous fanatics and the marines. Not to mention it might be over-watered with a fire hose.

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

Milestones

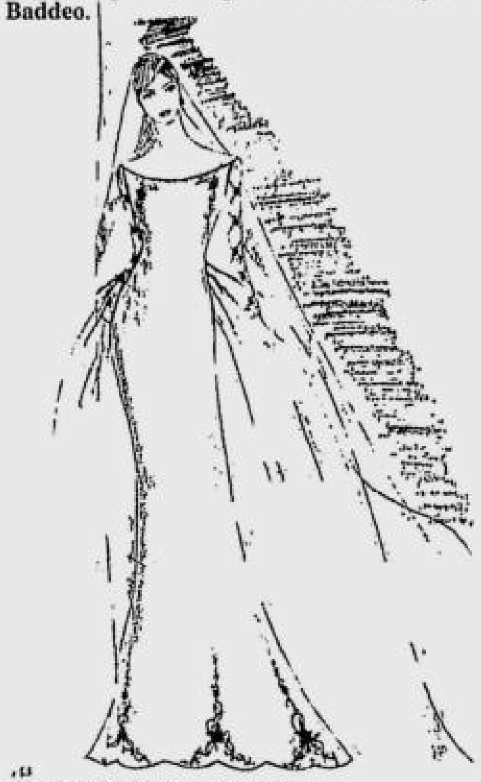
We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least a month before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



BAKIG-SIMBORIO

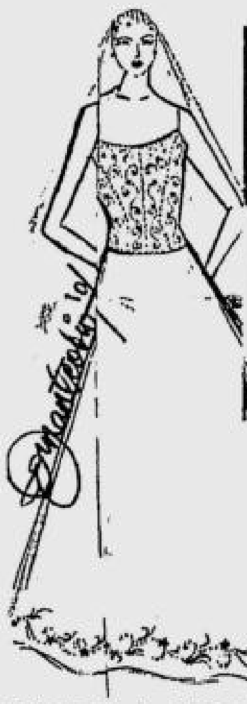
Adria Baking, son of **Angel** and **Edna Baking**, and **Oli Simborio**, daughter of **Juan** and **Edna Simbori** have exchanged vows on April 28, at the St. Pancrius Chapel, Paco Park. Reception followed at the Ctyard in Makati Avenue.

The ide wore an off-white princess-cut, Victoriannspired gown. French lace top bodice with mini cupleeves embellished with beads, bugles, sequins a pearls, designed and executed by **Eddie Baddeo.**



CALASNZ-LAMSEN

Renat C. Calasanz Jr., son of Capt. and Ms **Renato Calasanz Sr.** of Lubao, Pampanga, and **Nadilyn langaliag y Lamsen**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Gerdo C. Mangaliag Sr.** of San Carlos, Pangasin, exchanged vows on Dec. 23, at the Abbey ofur Lady of Montserrat, San Beda, Manila. She wore **Martin Basilio** *piña* gown. The gowns of the entouge were executed by Melange Fine Clothing of Gigua, Pampanga.



ESTRELA-SANTOS

Banjo ntos Estrella, son of ex-mayor **Pag-Asa Estrella** an **Loida Estrella** of Guinguinto, Bulacan, and **Ann Mrgareth "Princess" Santos**, daughter of **Teodora Rbles Santos** of Marilao, Bulacan, exchanged vos on April 15, at the Basilica of Immaculate Conepcion, Manila Cathedral Intramuros, Manila. Reption was held at the Coconut Palace, CCP Comx, Roxas Boulevard, Manila.

The bral gown was designed by **Renn Eusebio.**

FLORES-LOZANO

Eric Co Flores, son of **Alfonso D. Flores** and **Carmelita Flores**, will wed **Maria Odette Balantac Lozano**, daughter of SPO4 **Dante O. Lozano** and **Josefina Lozano**, on May 5, 10 a.m., at the Mary Immaculate Parish Church (Nature Church), Apollo III Street, Moonwalk Village, Las Piñas City. Reception will follow at the Church Courtyard.

SILANGAN-SABIJON

Glenn Silangan, son of **Jovita Romero vda. de Silangan**, and **Maria Vida Sabijon**, daughter of **Esperanza Torrefranca vda. de Sabijon**, will exchange marital vows on May 2 at the Christ the King Parish Church, Greenmeadows, QC. Reception will follow at the Valle Verde 6 Clubhouse, Pasig City.

ABELEDA DEBUT

The debutante **Mary Michelle Abeleda** with her parents **Carlos Juan Abeleda** and **Maria Luisa Abeleda**, and brother **Allan Jay Abeleda** at the Club Filipino, Greenhills

PARTY MAP OF THE PHILIPPINES

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SUMMER MEANS BEER

Take a closer look at our SMB Summer Hot Spots this week.

VIGAN
April 28 to May 4
"Viva Vigan"
Featuring Brainchild on April 30 and Pin-Up Girls on May 3

PANGASINAN
May 1
"Pistay Dayat"
Featuring Finger Puppet and UFO on April 27, Knights Motion and Juvenile's Band on April 28, New Level and Black Heaven on April 29, Bump & Grind and Rush Hour on April 30, and Cartoon Madness and Fade to Blue on May 1

MANILA
April 18 to May 31
"Radio Bar Tours"
Catch the hottest performers in bar tours of the coolest radio stations

May 5
"Cinco de Mayo Festival, Summer Means Beer"
Chef & Brewer Bar and Restaurant, Ortigas Center
Featuring Sabor Latino and Time & A Half

DUMAGUETE
May 1 to 5
"Santacruzan" Rizal Blvd., Dumaguete City
Featuring Brownman Revival and the hottest bands and DJs from Cebu on May 5

May 11
"Bikini Open 2001" Sta. Monica Beach Resort

PUERTO GALERA
May 25
"Search for SMB Bikini Beach Buddies" White Beach

May 26
"SMB Unplugged" White Beach
Featuring Wolfgang, Razorback, Barbie's Cradle and Cynthia Alexander

SIARGAO
May 11
"SMB Bikini Open" Kabuntud Beach Front

May 12
"SMB Reggae and Rock" Kabuntud Beach Front
Featuring The Dawn, Sandwich, Spy and Brownbeat All-Stars

Look out for print ads, posters & flyers for more SMB Summer events happening all over the country!

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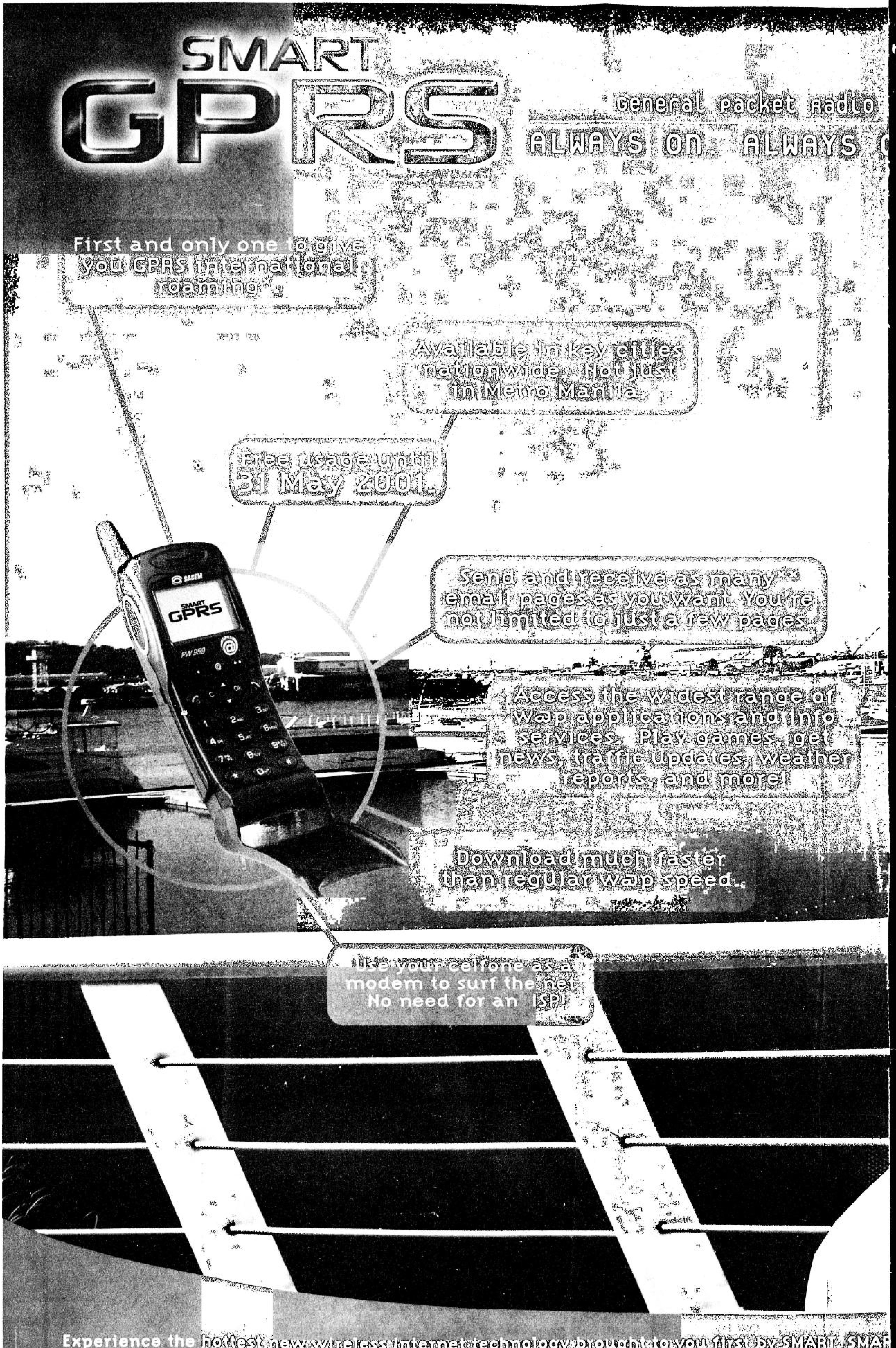
San Miguel BEER



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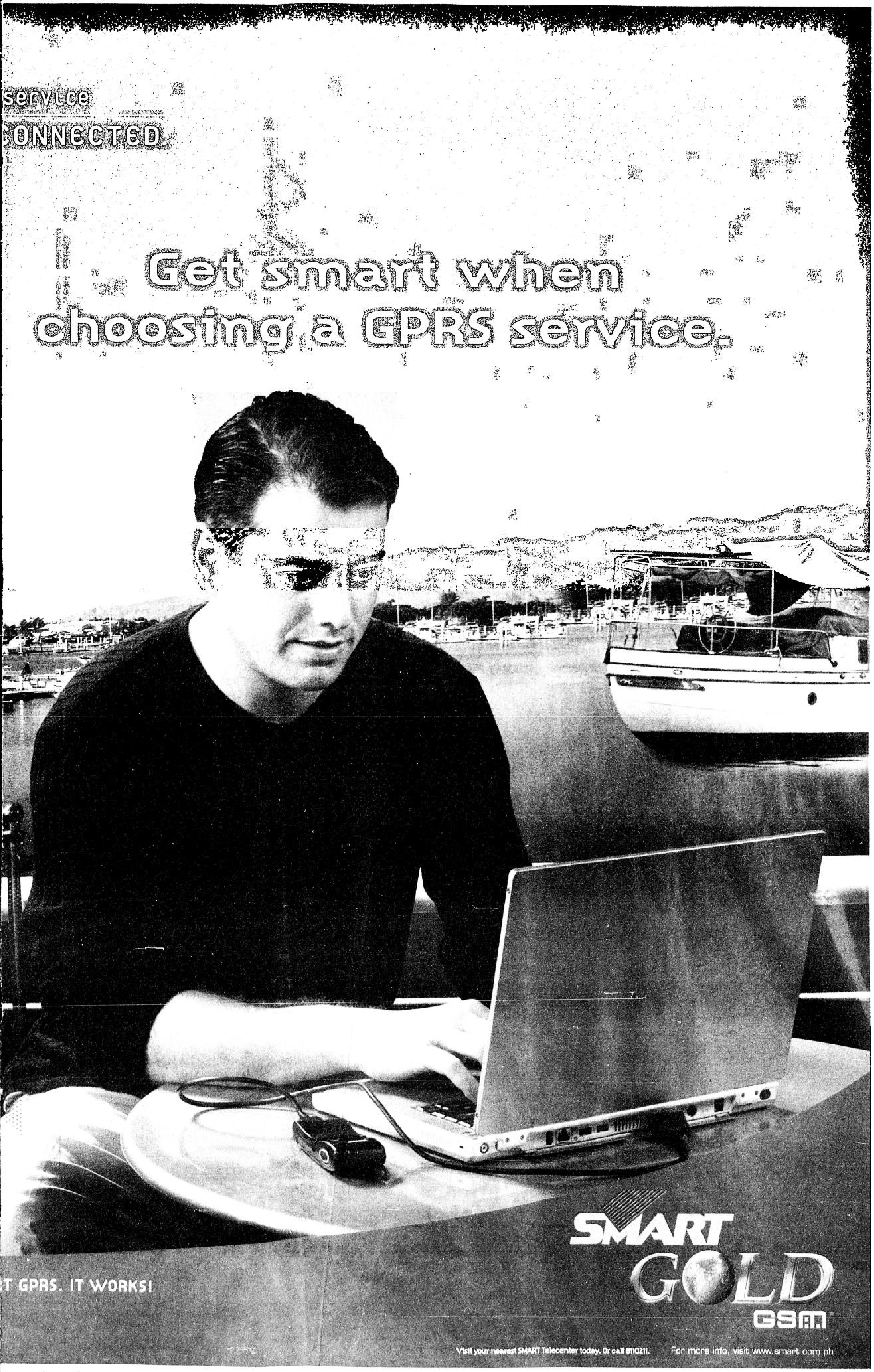
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Bridal fashion show slated April 30

BRIDE'S Maids and Co. and Jewelmer International, with the Makati Shangri-la Hotel, will present "Bridal Fete 2001" at the hotel's Rizal Ballroom on April 30, May 1 and 2.

The Fashion and Design Council of the Phils. (FDCP) said the bridal event will feature the works of Josie Cruz-Natori, Vic Barba, Danny dela Cuesta, Larry Espinosa, Bong Garcia, Cesar Gaupo, OJ Hofer, Gerry Katigbak, Rajo Laurel, Anthony Nocom, Ramil Noveda, Bobby Novenario, Dong Omaga-Diaz, Randy Ortiz, Alex Pigao, Patrice Ramos, Carla Sibal, Michelle Sison and Lulu Tan-Gan.

At the "Bridal Fete 2001" sneak preview, eight *piña* gown collections in modern styles by eight notable fashion designers—RC Gayatin of Cebu, Bernice Palanca-Go, Len Guiao, Ricci Lizaso, Dennis Lustico, Stephanie Ocampo, Nono Palmos and Frederick Peralta—were showcased.

The three-day event would feature not only bridal gowns, but debutante's and other long gowns as well, incorporating the unique Filipino flavor.

FDCP decided to use the native *piña* fabric in their designs. *Piña* is woven from the leaves of the pineapple plant. It is considered to be the cloth of choice for classic Filipino wear.

Rajo Laurel explained that because the fabric was simple, designs had to concentrate on the use of color and texture.

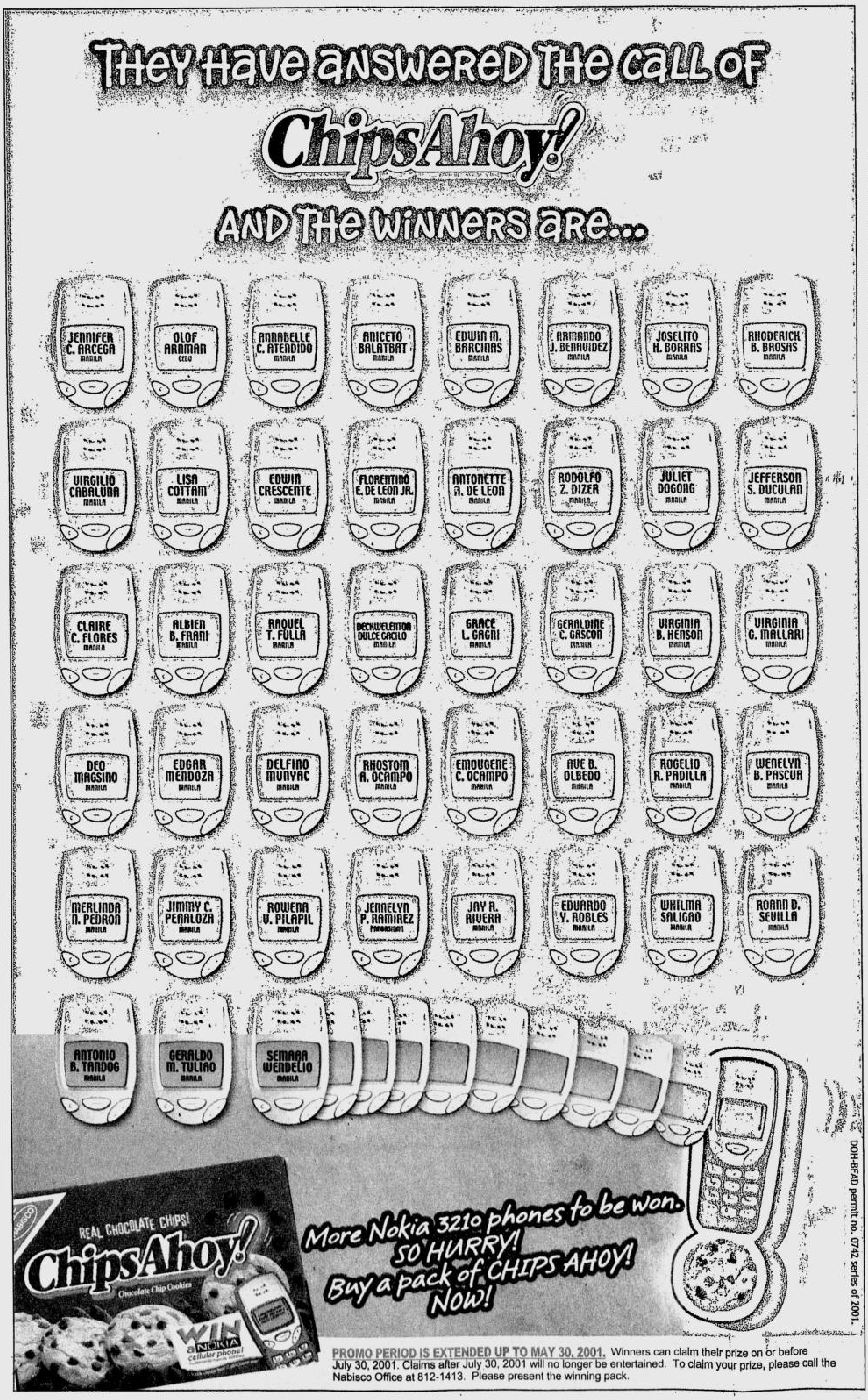
The fair will also showcase a diverse mix of wedding-related products and services by some of the top names in bridal fashion—floral designers, event planners and organizers, invitations and stationery designers, cake specialists and others.

Floral arrangements will be provided by Robert Blancaflor of 1816 Flowers, Antonio Garcia of Mabolo Flower Gallery, Tony Padilla of Floral Designs and Tony Rodriguez of Rustan's Flower Shop. Shangri-La's main lobby will have a butterfly garden with mini waterfalls courtesy of Toni Parsons of 517 Flower Company and Wings of Dreams Enterprise. The hotel will also give a preview of its theme wedding banquets. For the three-night gala, the hotel ballroom will be transformed into a real wedding reception venue.

On April 30, a gala fashion show dubbed "Bridal Inspirations 2001" will be held at 7 p.m. FDCP's roster of upcoming designers will present designs for an entire wedding entourage on May 1.

The fair culminates with the formal launching of ABS-CBN's Metro-Veil Magazine, Manila's latest bridal publication. A fashion show presenting the wedding gowns featured in Metro-Veil will be presented on May 2.

The three-day bridal event is supported by Citibank, Omega Time, Nokia and Northwest Airlines. Call 813-8888 local 7023 or 7025.



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ARMANDO J. BENAVIDEZ MANILA
JOSELITO H. BORRAS MANILA
RHODERICK B. BROSAS MANILA
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LISA COTTAM MANILA
EDWIN CRESCENTE MANILA
FLORENTINO E. DE LEON JR. MANILA
ANTONETTE A. DE LEON MANILA
RODOLFO Z. DIZER MANILA
JULIET DOGONG MANILA
JEFFERSON S. DUCULAN MANILA
CLAIRE C. FLORES MANILA
ALBIEN B. FRANI MANILA
RAQUEL T. FULLA MANILA
DECKWELENTOA DULCE GACILO MANILA
GRACE L. GAGNI MANILA
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After so many conquests, she is confused about sex and love

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango

DEAR Joe,

I had this classmate last sem who happens to be the crush of my good friend, Booey. Although I was attracted to Phoenix the first time I laid eyes on him, I kept it from Booey. After all, I get attracted to guys easily. I mean, I don't really get serious with anyone. Booey is a great friend and seeing how happy and excited she got around Phoenix, I simply ignored my attraction to him.

I initiate sex with any man I fancy. I am used to getting what I want, especially around men. Booey is so unlike me.

Phoenix and I used to text until he asked me to go out. He was very passionate about a lot of things. We were so unlike each other. He was sentimental, serious and pretty rational.

Is it possible that after kissing a person, that's the only time you realize you are in love with him? I kissed Phoenix. He was shocked by the gesture. Then we ended up making love. I really can't call it just sex because it was different. It just happened. I left while he was still sleeping. My head was full of thoughts and questions.

When I went to see Phoenix the next day, I learned he was on his way to Colorado for the summer. I called him and he said he was as dumbfounded as I was. I always remember what he said: "You only do it with the person you love. That's the only time sex can be good." He said he needs time to think about what came over him that night. He was not sure what he feels for me and if he felt anything at all.

We call each other every now and then. And we'll be seeing each other in school come June. This is the first time I am confusing sex with love. If I could fly to Colorado and be with him, I would.

It would help if you can give me your advice on this. I am 26 and about to get my marriage annulled. My husband cheated on me countless times.

JOELLE

It seems like you are definitely turning your back on your failed marriage and finally giving yourself the chance to start over again. I just hope you have given this much thought and it isn't one that was made in haste.

You have had a lot of sexual encounters in the past, experiences you took lightly and never considered serious. For many people, sex is still considered the ultimate expression of one's love and devotion to another person. This means we just don't jump from one bed to another to prove something to ourselves.

You thought you had proven your capacity to make any man fall for you. But after making it with Phoenix, you realized love can be more overwhelming than sex. Could it be that this is the first time you were conquered and not the one doing the conquering? This short meeting of the minds with Phoenix has surprisingly caught you defenseless. He probably was not like the others who viewed sex differently.

Joelle, I know how exciting this is, finding someone who completes you as a person, but you should be careful. After one failed marriage, you should not rush into any relationship yet, no matter how promising it is. Take your time and learn to value yourself.

If you think you can conquer every man you sleep with, then think again. You won't gain or prove anything from this. There is more to a relationship than sex. It is important, but it shouldn't be the foundation on which we build our commitments.

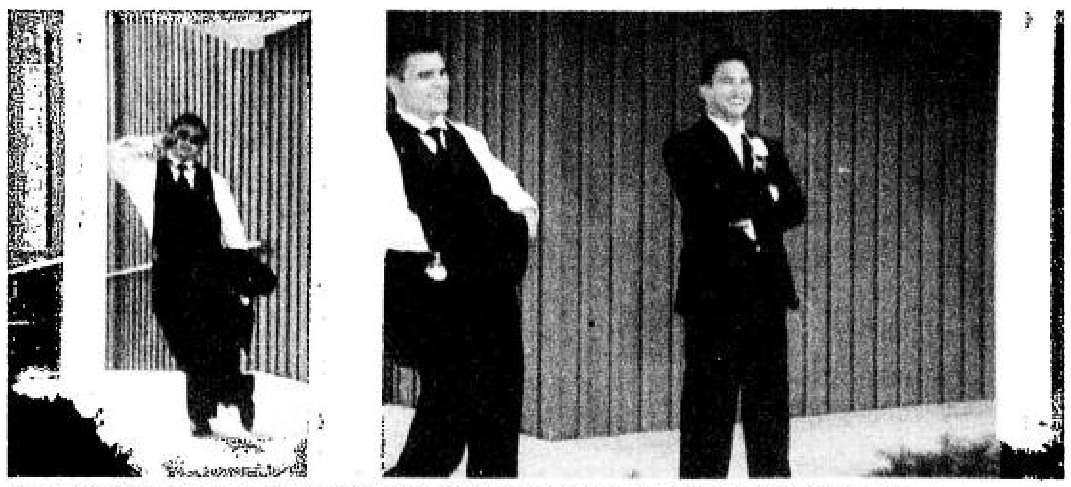
Phoenix could be the right one for you, but it would take more than two naked bodies to find that out. Explore the endless possibilities of friendship and just let time take its course. Soon enough, you will see a clear picture of your dreams and the man who will make it all happen.

* * *

Join Hallmark's "Between You & Me Card Speak" contest. Get the chance to have your heartwarming story printed in the INQUIRER's 2bU! section every Wednesday. And if that's not enough, you also win two cool Swatch watches. Just tell us why the card you've chosen means so much to you in 300 words or less. Send the actual card to Filstar Distributors Corp., 3/F Team Pacific Building, 13 Jose Cruz St., Ugong, Pasig City. Listen to Joe D'Mango's "Love Notes" every Friday (10 a.m.) over Wave 89.1 as he reads your favorite "Between You & Me" cards.

E-mail the author at joe@allink.net

THE MULTI-SPIRED clubhouse of Angus Glen Golf and Country Club where the pre-dinner cocktails were served



THE GROOM (extreme right) strikes a pose with brothers Derrick and Fred Ortencio.

PRETTY bridesmaids Deanna Nearing, April Hammond and Michelle Solomon

Autumn wedding in Toronto

(From page D8)

The dinner reception was preceded by cocktails at the multispired clubhouse of Angus Glen. Guests were handed out silver-painted wooden picture frames as they entered the peppermint-striped tent. The picture frames, which were also the wedding souvenirs, were numbered with the table assignments for the guests.

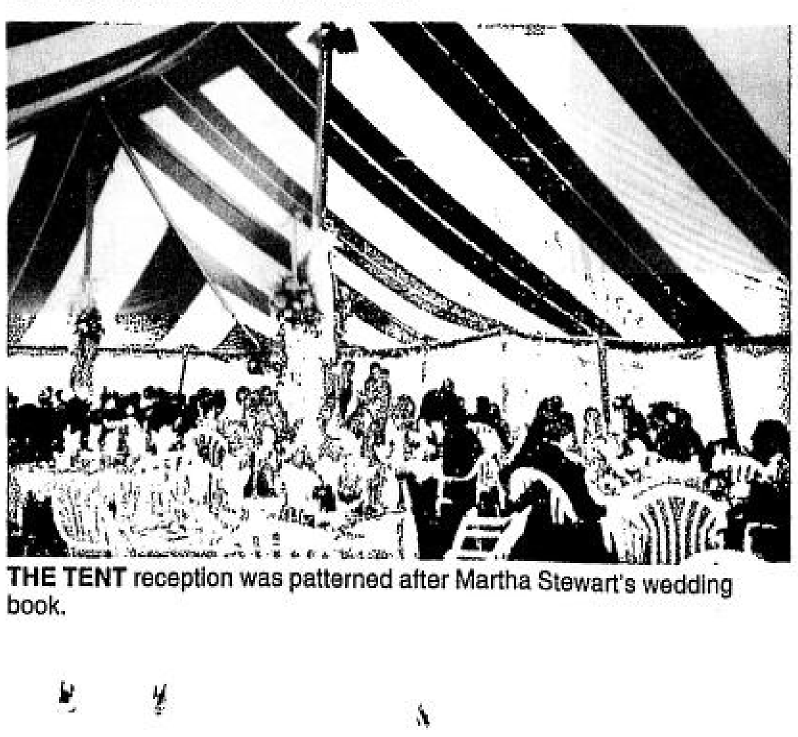
Another Martha Stewart inspiration was the arrangement for the children. The kids' tables, set apart from the main setting, were strewn with toys, candies and balloons and had a different menu of hotdogs, hamburgers and ice cream.

The Filipino touch was not completely missing, however. When the newlyweds opened the dance, friends and relatives swarmed all over them to pin money bills on their clothes.

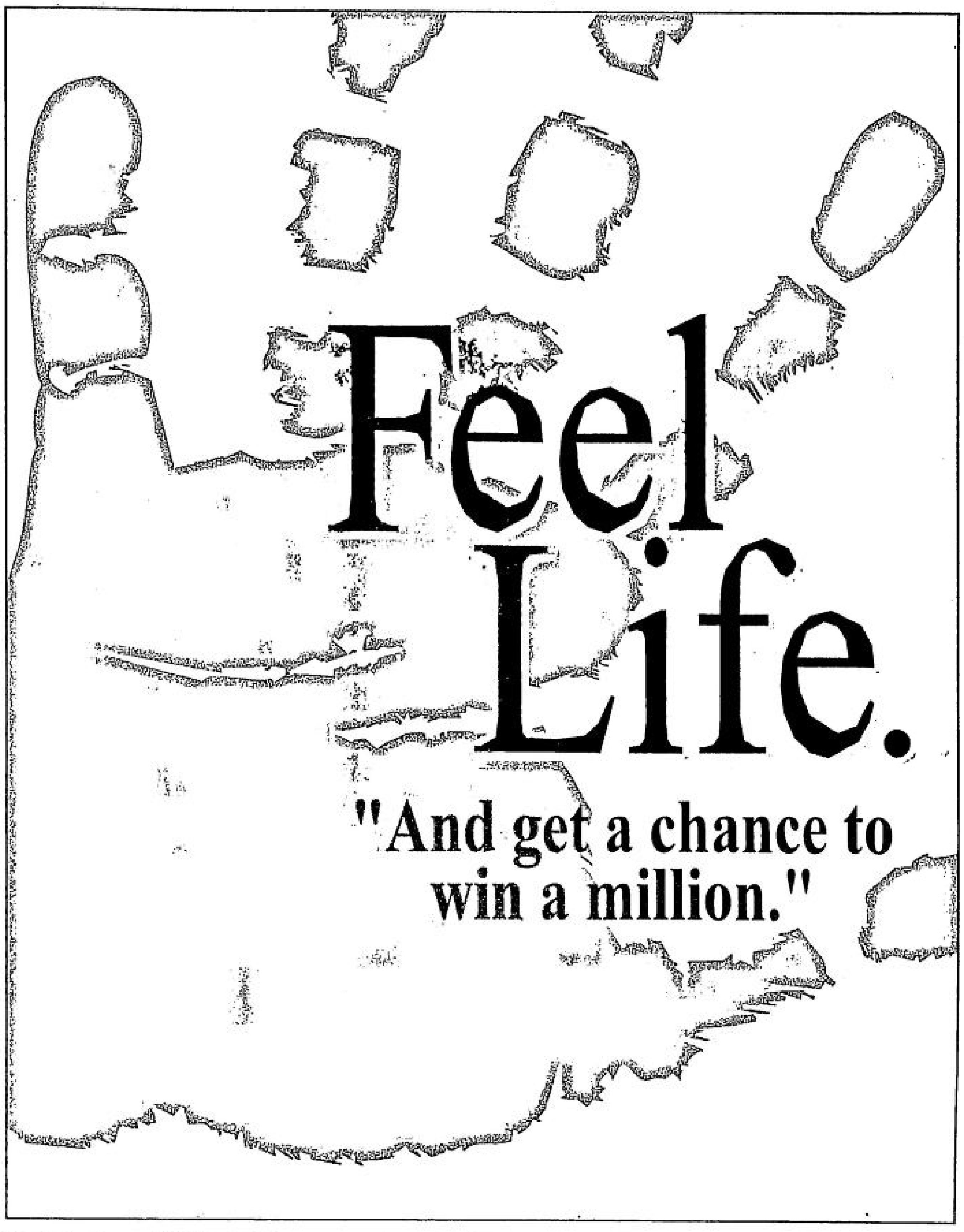
The wedding party moved back to the clubhouse where Canadian singer-guitarist John McGivern serenaded the newlyweds with their favorite love songs. Then Steve Towers' mobile group took over to play hard-rocking dance music. The party and the open bar lasted till midnight and to make sure that nobody gets a ticket for driving under the influence, there was a long coaster standing by to ferry back the young guests to their homes.

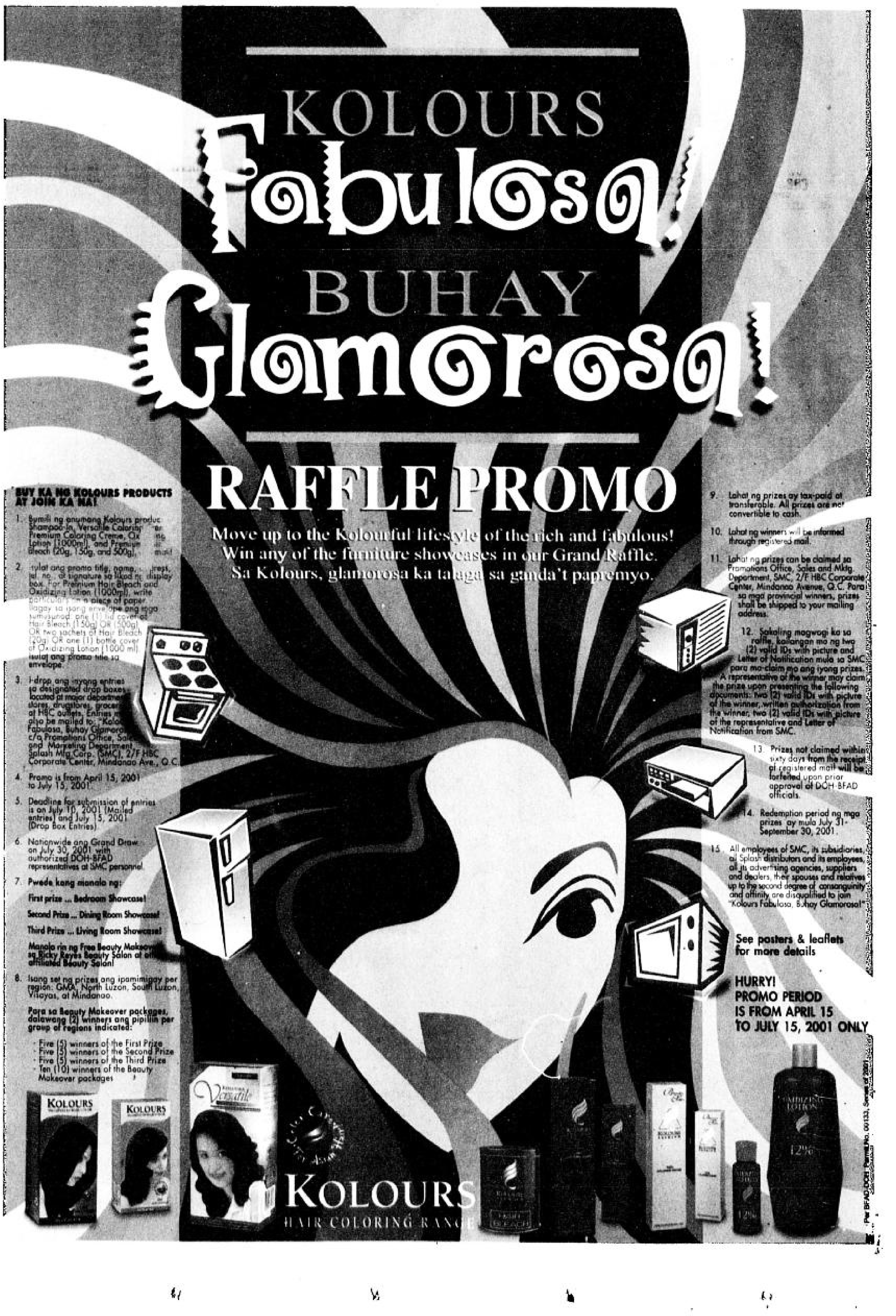
After a week-long honeymoon in Greece, Frank and Lisa have settled down to the serious business of being man and wife in their own nest in Beaches, a wooded young suburb near downtown Toronto. When I get another e-mail announcing their first baby, then I'll know for sure, that I'm no spring chicken anymore and yes, my favorite nephew has indeed grown up. Cheers, darlings!

THE BRIDE'S mom, Brenda Dutton (left), with Maureen Baxter and the bride's grandmother, Connie Marshall



THE TENT reception was patterned after Martha Stewart's wedding book.





Move up to the Kolourful lifestyle of the rich and fabulous!
Win any of the furniture showcases in our Grand Raffle.
Sa Kolours, glamorosa ka talaga sa ganda't papremyo.

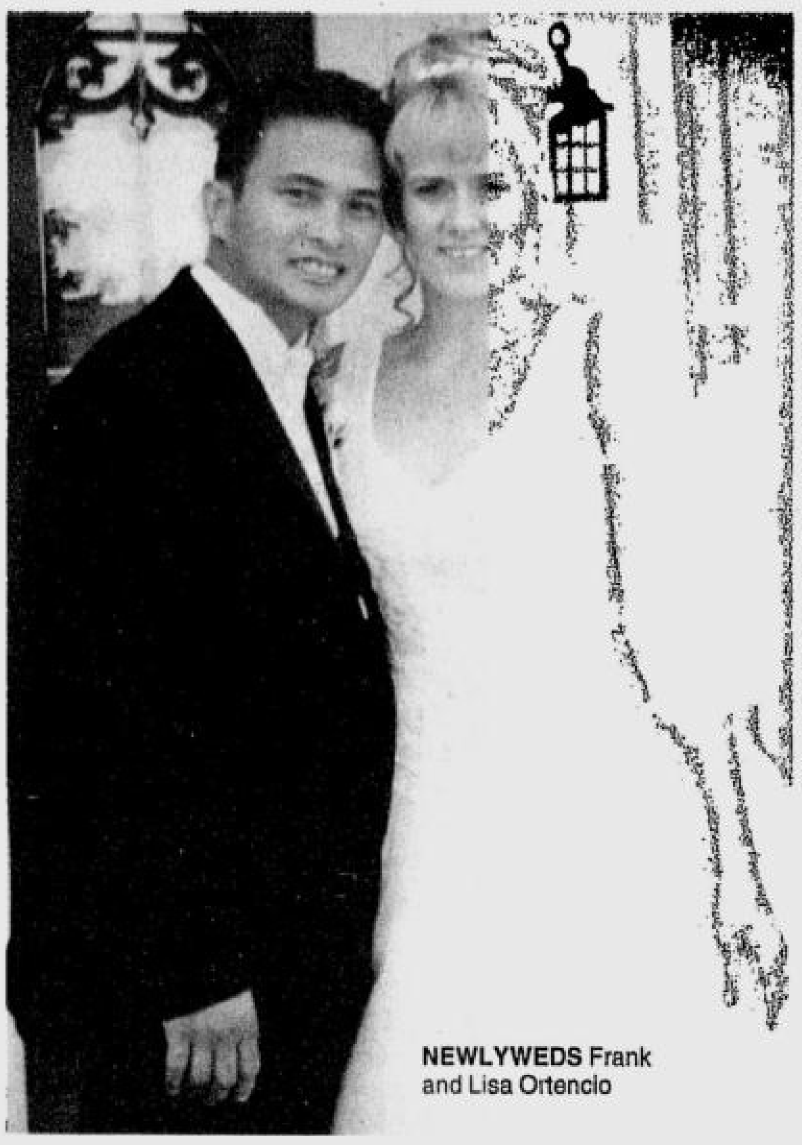
BUY KA NG KOLOURS PRODUCTS AT JOIN KA NA!

1. Bumili ng anumang Kolours produc[illegible] Shampoo-In, Versatile Coloring [illegible] Premium Coloring Creme, Ox[illegible] Lotion (1000ml), and Premium [illegible] Bleach (20g, 150g, and 500g).
2. Isulat ang promo title, name, [illegible] tel. no., at signature sa likod ng display box. For Premium Hair Bleach and Oxidizing Lotion (1000ml), write particulars on a piece of paper. Ilagay sa isang envelope ang mga sumusunod: one (1) lid cover of Hair Bleach (150g) OR (500g) OR two sachets of Hair Bleach (20g) OR one (1) bottle cover of Oxidizing Lotion (1000 ml). Isulat ang promo title sa envelope.
3. I-drop ang inyong entries sa designated drop boxes located at major department stores, drugstores, grocer[illegible] at HBC outlets. Entries m[illegible] also be mailed to: "Kolo[illegible] Fabulosa, Buhay Glamoro[illegible] c/o Promotions Office, Sal[illegible] and Marketing Department, Splash Mfg. Corp. (SMC), 2/F HBC Corporate Center, Mindanao Ave., Q.C.
4. Promo is from April 15, 2001 to July 15, 2001.
5. Deadline for submission of entries is on July 10, 2001 (Mailed entries) and July 15, 2001 (Drop Box Entries).
6. Nationwide ang Grand Draw on July 30, 2001 with authorized DOH-BFAD representatives at SMC personnel.
7. **Pwede kang manalo ng:**
   First prize ... Bedroom Showcase!
   Second Prize ... Dining Room Showcase!
   Third Prize ... Living Room Showcase!
   Manalo rin ng Free Beauty Makeover sa Ricky Reyes Beauty Salon at affiliated Beauty Salon!
8. Isang set ng prizes ang ipamimigay per region: GMA, North Luzon, South Luzon, Visayas, at Mindanao.
   Para sa Beauty Makeover packages, dalawang (2) winners ang pipiliin per group of regions indicated:
   - Five (5) winners of the First Prize
   - Five (5) winners of the Second Prize
   - Five (5) winners of the Third Prize
   - Ten (10) winners of the Beauty Makeover packages
9. Lahat ng prizes ay tax-paid at transferable. All prizes are not convertible to cash.
10. Lahat ng winners will be informed through registered mail.
11. Lahat ng prizes can be claimed sa Promotions Office, Sales and Mktg. Department, SMC, 2/F HBC Corporate Center, Mindanao Avenue, Q.C. Para sa mga provincial winners, prizes shall be shipped to your mailing address.
12. Sakaling magwagi ka sa raffle, kailangan mo ng two (2) valid IDs with picture and Letter of Notification mula sa SMC para ma-claim mo ang iyong prizes. A representative of the winner may claim the prize upon presenting the following documents: two (2) valid IDs with picture of the winner, written authorization from the winner, two (2) valid IDs with picture of the representative and Letter of Notification from SMC.
13. Prizes not claimed within sixty days from the receipt of registered mail will be forfeited upon prior approval of DOH-BFAD officials.
14. Redemption period ng mga prizes ay mula July 31-September 30, 2001.
15. All employees of SMC, its subsidiaries, all Splash distributors and its employees, all its advertising agencies, suppliers and dealers, their spouses and relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified to join "Kolours Fabulosa, Buhay Glamorosa!"

See posters & leaflets for more details

**HURRY!
PROMO PERIOD
IS FROM APRIL 15
TO JULY 15, 2001 ONLY**

Per BFAD-DOH Permit No. 00133, Series of 2001



NEWLYWEDS Frank and Lisa Ortencio

Although the ceremony was held in a foreign land, the Filipino touch was not missing. As the newlyweds opened the dance, guests pinned money bills on their clothes

THE GROOM'S parents, Drake and Maria Ortencio

THE NEWLYWEDS with the bride's family: (from left) Darren Dutton, Steve and Debbie Bullock, Brenda and Arthur Dutton, and little attendants Emma and Jordan Bullock

ORTENCIO-DUTTON

Autumn wedding in Toronto

BY DONNIE C. RAMIREZ

YOU know you've reached midlife when you get an e-mail from your favorite nephew in Canada inviting you to his wedding. Frank Frederick Ortencio, eldest of three sons of my sister Maria Luisa and her husband, computer banking specialist Drake Ortencio, was marrying his sweetheart of six years, a blonde English-Canadian girl named Lisa Joanne Dutton. The bride is the middle child of Arthur Dutton, a retired British Marine officer, and Brenda Joan Marshall-Dutton.

Frank and Lisa, who both groove with Toronto's highly mobile yuppie set, met quite expectedly in a disco. It was at the famous RPM Club in downtown Toronto where Lisa was then the operations manager. Frank, a champion collegiate wrestler in Ontario, had just graduated from the University of Toronto in Scarborough with a diploma in economics, while Lisa was enrolled at the Ryerson University in Toronto. He is presently connected with Merrill Lynch as senior financial consultant while Lisa works at the Royal Bank of Canada Dominion Securities as an investment advisor.

The wedding, held amid the splendor of autumn's changing colors, was solemnized by the Rev. Fr. Hugh Manley at the St. John's Cathedral in downtown Toronto. The open-tent reception, inspired by Martha Stewart's Wedding Designs, was held at the Angus Glen Golf and Country Club in upscale Markham, home of the Canadian Open.

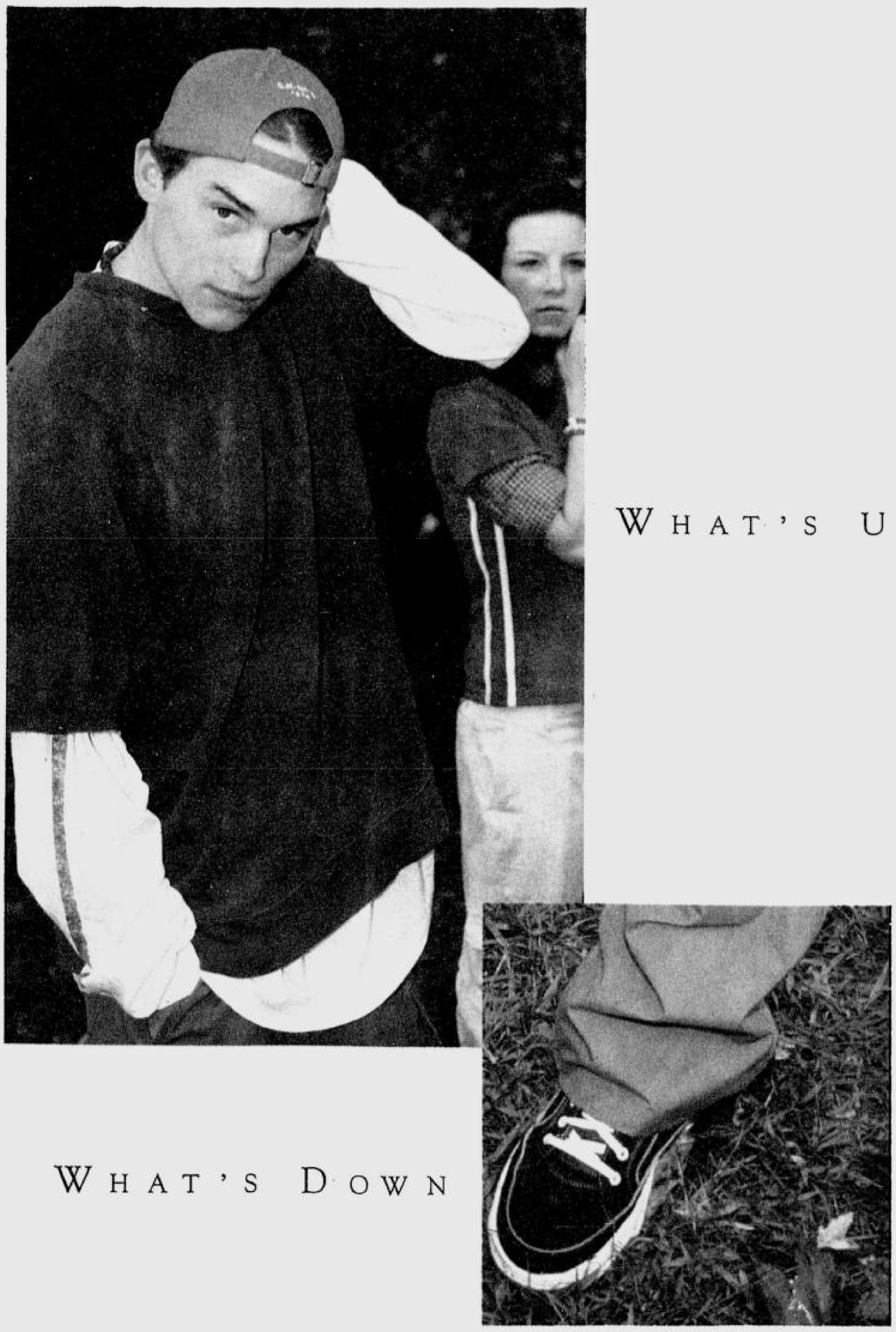
Lisa wore a pearl white Vera Wang dress of chantilly lace with a full tulle veil, while the groom was in a black tuxedo. The western-style rites started with the wedding procession done to the music of Clark's "Trumpet Voluntary." The responsorial psalm, "Praise the Lord," was led by Eric Walker, while the second reading, "The Greatest of These is Love," from 1 Corinthians 12:31, was read by the bride's brother-in-law, Scott Bullock. Father Manley then delivered the gospel titled "Remain in My Love," from John 15:9-12. The signing of the register was done to the music of Bach's "Jesu Joy of Man's Desire" and for the recessional, Purcell's "'Martial Air" was played.

Principal sponsors were Ronald and Valerie Marshall, Dr. Cecilia Ynares-Genato, lawyer Marcelino Ramirez and Celia Nepomuceno. Best man was the groom's brother, Fred Ortencio, and matron of honor was the bride's sister, Debbie Bullock.

Rounding up the entourage were bridesmaids Deanna Nearing, April Hammond and Michelle Solomon, groomsmen Derrick Ortencio, Darren Dutton, James McLaughlin, John Selby and Richard Viterbo, and offerors Marci Ellig and Sean Richardson. The little attendants were Aaron Jose (coin bearer), Jordan Bullock (ring bearer) and Emma Bullock (flower girl).

AUTUMN/ p.D8

THE BRIDE dances with her father, Arthur Dutton.



WHAT'S UP

WHAT'S DOWN

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On-air, on-line, on-ground and in-store

It's the marketing mantra of Philips as it targets the youth and the opinion leaders in its bid to become the No. 1 brand in home electronics

By Chelo Banal-Formoso

Bali became Philips island when the consumer electronics company held its 4th Asia-Pacific, Middle East and Africa Media Conference there in very late and very hot March.

AZ 1138

Philips Consumer Electronics (PCE) was itching to show off its latest technological triumphs to the media from Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Dubai, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Taiwan and Thailand. And it chose to do so in Bali, Indonesia's claim to tourism fame supposedly for its beautiful beaches and exotic women bathing under waterfalls.

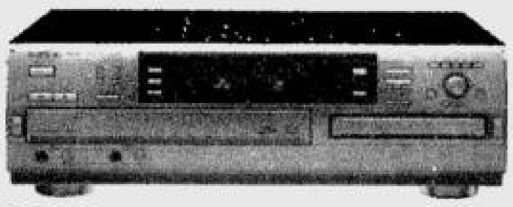
You would think if a company like Philips wanted to talk about its vision for 2001 and beyond—about the prospects of seamless connectivity via Bluetooth, about the convergence and integration of display-centric products, about its program to move from highly localized manufacturing to globalized production—it wouldn't bother with lifestyle writers and editors. What could a bunch that writes about Fall fashions and the virtues of mud baths possibly know about "viable bitrate" or "double suspension-double excursion" bass radiators?

Lifestyle-centered

Surprisingly, a good number of the conventioneers at the Sheraton Nusa Indah Resort at the Nusa Dua Beach were lifestyle media. This was because Philips had learned the lesson that in designing, assembling and marketing products like TV sets, video recorders, lighting, electric shavers, etc., a company has to focus on the users' lifestyle or else they wouldn't sell.

And so it wasn't by coincidence that Philips organized lifestyle-centered presentations in Bali. The television group's showcase was a projection TV set in a family setting. The audio group recreated a teen's room, complete with surf board and dirty laundry; it also played music from a

ON-AIR/ p.E4



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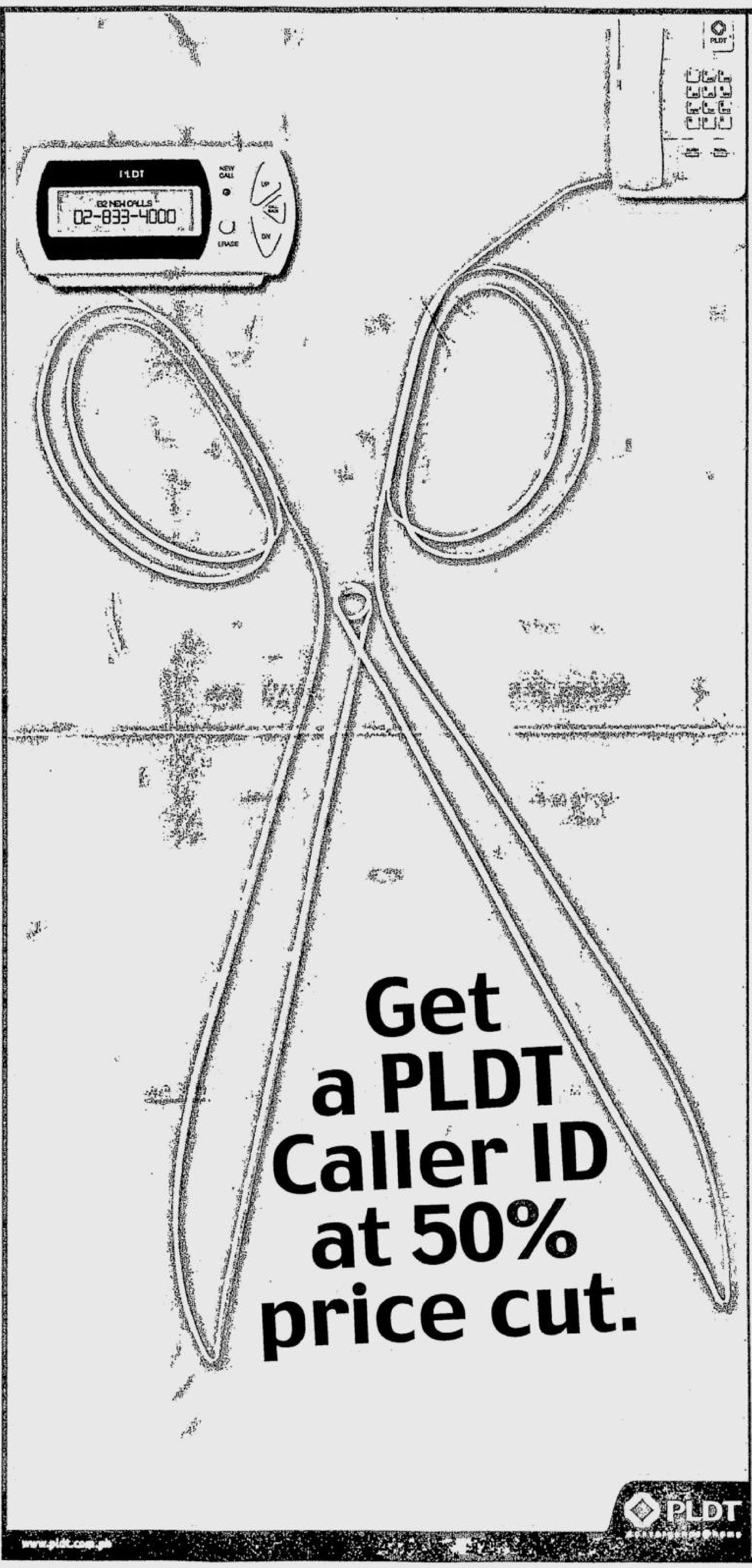


Get maximum security at only P375 per Caller ID unit!
PLUS FREE CALLER ID ACTIVATION!

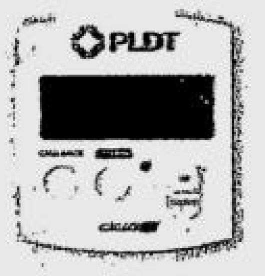
PROMO MECHANICS:

1. Promotion is open to:
   a. all existing PLDT residential or business direct line subscribers.
   b. new lines subscribers (i.e. those who paid for the installation fee) during promo period.
2. Subscribers may avail of the Caller ID unit at 50% off (P375/unit) and FREE activation of the Caller ID feature.
3. PLDT reserves the right not to sell Caller ID to subscribers whose lines are temporarily/permanently disconnected or if the line has technical limitations.
4. A maximum of 2 Caller ID units can be purchased by the subscriber for each direct line.
5. All purchases must be on cash basis.
6. Caller ID units will not be delivered. Subscriber must purchase units at all PLDT business offices nationwide and its authorized dealers.
7. Activation is within 5 days provided that the phone line does not have technical limitations.
8. The 50% price off is applicable only on the following PLDT approved models: Identity CID 300 and Bellphone 77173.
9. Promo period is from April 15 to May 15, 2001.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Customer must apply for Caller ID at PLDT business offices and accredited distributors nationwide. (see list of outlets)
2. PLDT Customer Representative will check if the phone line is CID capable or not. If capable, Customer Representative will direct Customer to Caller ID selling area.
   NOTE: Caller ID selling area is handled by PLDT authorized distributors.
3. Customer must accomplish the CID application form and should submit the form to the authorized distributor together with his payment.
4. Authorized distributor will then issue a receipt and give the Caller ID unit to the customer.
5. Authorized distributor will endorse the application form to the PLDT Customer Representative for activation of the Caller ID feature.

LIST OF OUTLETS NATIONWIDE:
•PLDT BUSINESS OFFICES, •TELEPONO@IBAPA OUTLETS (located at Asian Mansion II, Unit G-5, 107 dela Rosa St., Makati City; Cash and Carry Supermarket, Filmore St. entrance, Makati City; G/F EHS Bldg., 4429 Calatagan St., Bgy. Palanan, Makati City), •ABENSON'S OUTLETS (Alabang; Las Pinas; Jaka, Sucat; Ever Ortigas; Robinson's Galleria; Robinson's Ermita; Shangri-la Plaza; Harrison Plaza; Mandaluyong-Sheridan; SM City Carpark; Farmers Cubao; Rustan's Cubao; Quad I, Makati; Cainta, Sta. Lucia I; Unimart, Greenhills; Regalado, Fairview; Cainta 2, Sta. Lucia 4; Grand Central, Kalookan; Metropolis, Muntinlupa; Waltermart, Pasong Tamo; Waltermart, E. Rodriguez; Pearl Plaza, Tambo Paranaque) •AMBASSADOR APPLIANCES (Dasmariñas, Binondo Manila; Makati Commercial Center-Goldcrest, Shangri-la Edsa Mall, Mandaluyong) • ALL METRO MANILA SM APPLIANCE STORES (SM North EDSA, QC; SM MegaMall, Mandaluyong; SM Cubao, QC; SM South Mall, Las Pinas; SM Makati, Makati Commercial Center; SM Fairview, Novaliches; SM Manila, near Manila City Hall)



Also available: Identity CID 300
PLDT Caller ID Knows All Calls.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0467 Series of 2001

DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES
Fiestamall
SUGOD PA!
SALE NG BAYAN 2
Extended up to May 15
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. All-065, Series of 2001

THIS STORE IS PROTECTED WITH VIDEO SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY

EXPANSIVE. The aisles are big enough for dancing, and the savings are enough to make you want to do so.

FRESH out of the oven goodies get a once-over from guest of honor Mayor Mathay and RLC's Frederick Go.

A complete . . .

(From page E8)

Big in savings and in size, Big R has a well-planned store layout that spans over 10,000 sq m, with direct access to the parking area, pedestrian traffic and the Robinsons Place Novaliches shopping mall. The selling area is filled with a variety of goods, composed of popular brands both local and imported. Its fresh produce section offers seafood, meat and poultry, delivered fresh daily by its suppliers. Dairy, fresh fruits and vegetables together with freshly baked breads, pastries and ready-to-eat food items are also available. The grocery is packed with a wide array of popular brands, canned goods, household cleaning agents, cosmetics, health and beauty aids and more. An apparel line for men, women and children, school supplies, houseware, furniture and home furnishings complete the wide selection of merchandise. There is also an appliance depot operated by Big R in partnership with Abensons.

According to James Go of Robinsons Land Corp., plans are to open 10 more Big R supercenters throughout the country. A second Big R outlet will be located on Marcos Highway, to cater to the needs of Cainta, Marikina, Antipolo and Taytay residents. A third one in San Fernando, Pampanga will service the needs of Angeles, Zambales, Nueva Ecija and Bulacan provinces. "We are aligning the expansion of Big R with that of Robinsons malls, so that we can give customers a complete retail experience," Yu said. Popularly known in the US as hypermarkets, the supercenter concept will definitely be the way to go in the retail business in years to come.

ONE-STOP do-it-yourself section for household needs and repairs

VINO, lots of it, and other liquor, both internationally and locally produced at the wine section

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SCHOLARSHIP
WITH AN AMA BANK TIME DEPOSIT

Scholarship na,
Interest pa!

Good news! AMA Bank is giving away a P52,000.00 scholarship grant for the School Year 2001 - 2002.

Just open a P300,000.00 Time Deposit Account at any AMA Bank branch, from April 30 to June30,2001 and you will instantly get a P52,000.00 scholarship coupon or cash voucher which you can use for a 2-year College Educational Plan in AMA Computer Learning Center (ACLC) or AMA Telecommunications & Electronics Learning Center (AMATEL).

Not only that, aside from the FREE Scholarship, you can also earn as high as 7% interest per annum. So you don't only get free education, but greater value for your money as well!

So, what are you waiting for? Open an AMA Bank Time Deposit now!

PROMO PERIOD :
April 30 - June 30, 2001

MECHANICS :

1. Scholarship will depend on the time deposit amount the client deposits with the Bank.

AMOUNT	INTEREST RATE	SPECIAL PRIVILEGE
P300.000.00	7%p.a.	P52,000.00 worth of Scholarship
P150,000.00	5%p.a.	P26,000.00 worth of Scholarship
P100,000.00	4%p.a.	An outright enrollment discount of P17,100.00

The College Educational privilege is applicable for a 2-year Educational Plan at AMA Computer Learning Center (ACLC) or at AMA Telecommunications & Electronics Center (AMATEL). It can also be any college of your choice as long as it is not a competitor of AMA's Educational Institutions.

2. Should the depositor choose to enroll in a college other than ACLC or AMATEL, he/she should shoulder any amount exceeding the scholarship grant corresponding to his /her time deposit with AMA Bank.
3. To qualify, the Time Deposit should be locked-in for a 3-year fixed period without pre-termination. In case of pre-termination, the tuition fee paid by the bank and a pre-termination penalty (agreed with the client upon deposit) shall be deducted from the client's Time Deposit Account.
4. The bank will issue a Scholarship Certificate to be presented to ACLC, AMATEL or the school of his/her choice upon enrollment.
5. The depositor has the option to transfer or award the scholarship to anyone he/she pleases.
6. Payment of corresponding taxes which will be as agreed with Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and the sponsor.
7. Scholarship is valid only for the School Year 2001 - 2002.

Visit any AMA Bank branch near you for more information.

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See posters and leaflets for more details.

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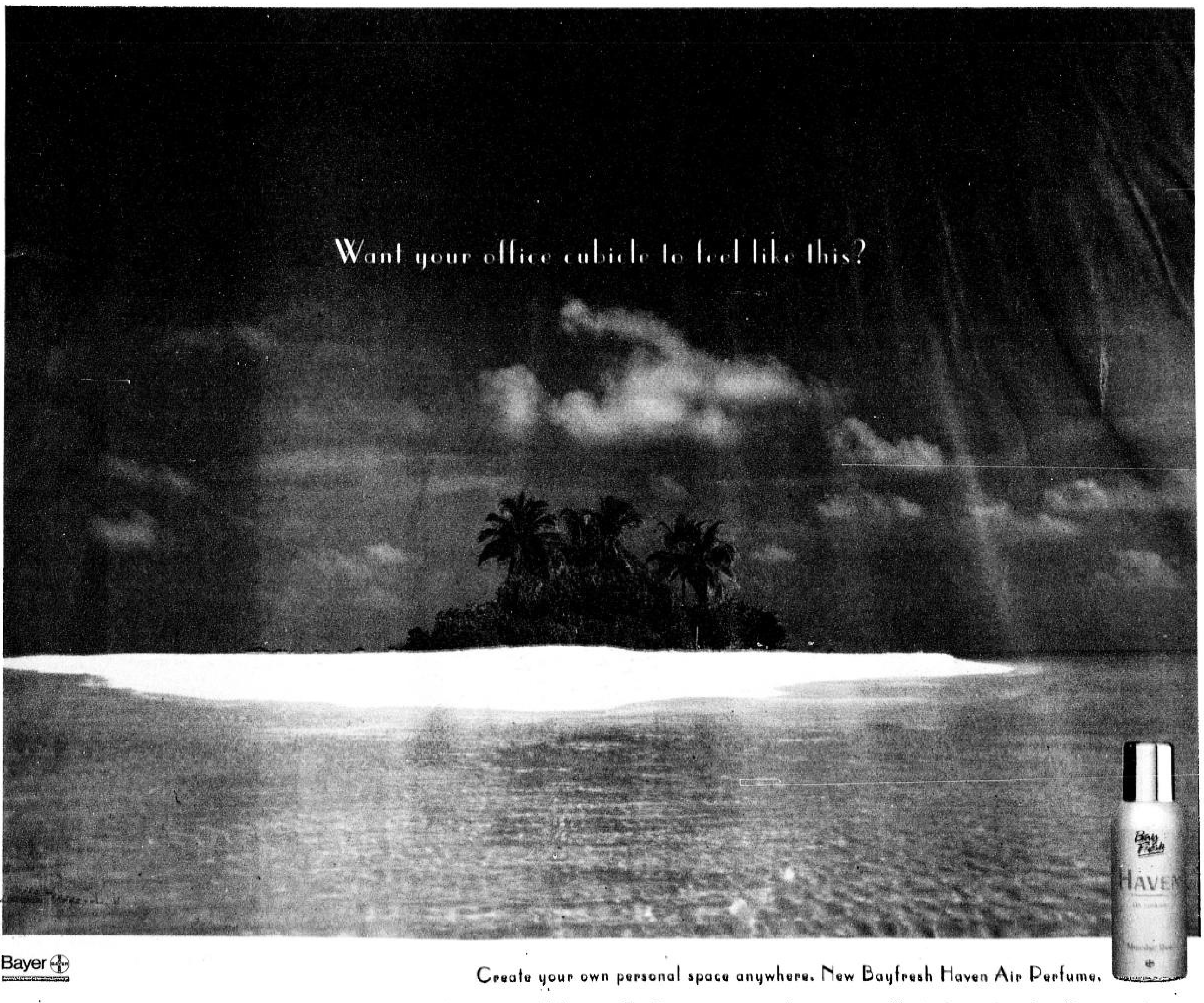
Lactum
NUTRITIONALLY-BALANCED MILK FOOD
HELPS MAKE YOUR CHILD A
100%
NOURISHED KID

ANOTHER REASON TO STICK WITH LACTUM!

100% NOURISHMENT. 100% ABSORBED!

YOU ALWAYS WANT YOUR KID TO GET 100%. 100% [illegible]
NOW WITH NATURAL INULIN FIBER. HELPS KEEP YOUR KID'S DIGESTIVE SYSTEM
HEALTHY FOR ALL OF LACTUM'S MACRO AND MICRONUTRIENTS.
100% NOURISHMENT. 100% ABSORBED!


Bay Fresh
HAVEN

Want your office cubicle to feel like this?

Bayer

Create your own personal space anywhere. New Bayfresh Haven Air Perfume.

MC70 WooX

SLEEK design for 29" projection TV

On-air, on-line, on-ground and in-store

(From page E1)

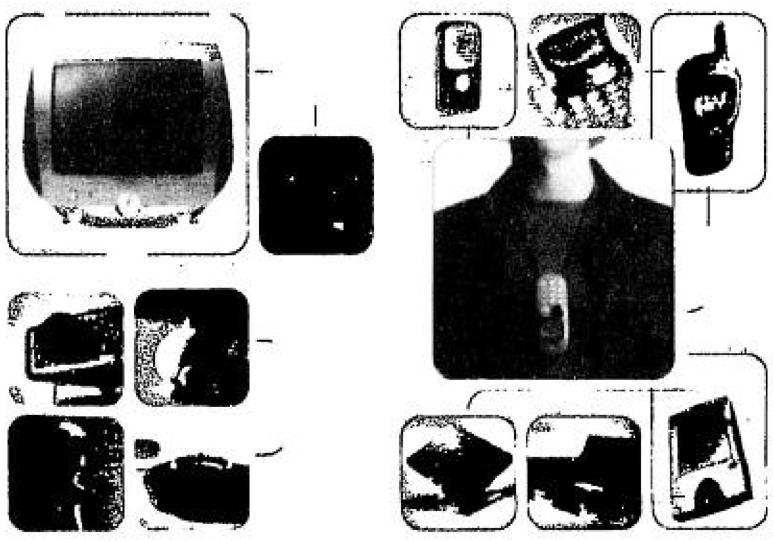
multiple stack of mini systems using WooX, a technology that produces heart-pounding and powerful bass sounds. The video/home theater group served popcorn to go with a screening of "The Fifth Element" (to demonstrate that the DVD is the best way to watch movies) and played a portion from a concert recording by Ivan Fisher with the Budapest Orchestra (to demonstrate total music immersion).

Philips has been holding a regional media conference every year since 1998. The event is an opportunity for Philips managers and the media to mix and mingle. This is where the company, which has its headquarters in the Netherlands, unveils its new products before newspersons. This is where Philips not only shows what it can deliver but also promises to deliver if the consumers dare to dream a lifestyle of, say, TVs and DVDs in matching color and design.

That's where the lifestyle media come in. They are the ones who will tell consumers what's going to be out there soon and try to convince them to take that leap of faith and buy Philips. The lifestyle pages are for people who have to work for a living, and want more than what they have: more cash, more hair, more jeans, more closet space, more fun, more glamour, more social approval, etc. Hopefully, they will also want more electronic equipment.

In a world with so many choices, many of which carry the attractive premiums of low cost and good craftsmanship, it's a smart company that takes the time to set its brand up right. Philips has done an excellent job of that.

What once was a company associated mainly with lighting is now a name with unquantifiable emotional, right-brain bond with buyers of TV sets, video recorders, portable CD players and other electronics. You say Philips TV and people think instantly of flat screens and luxurious home-cinema type television with surround Dolby sound. You say Philips audio and the image of a boom box with sound you can't believe could come from such a small portable immediately comes to mind.



Philips is now among the top three home electronics brands in the world. To put Philips' marketing in various countries in perspective: it is No. 1 in flat TV and CD-RCRs (portables and boom boxes) worldwide, in color TV and TV-video combinations in Europe and Latin America, in VCR and set top boxes in Europe, and in monitors globally, except in the US and Canada. Total sales in 2000 equaled Euro $37.9 billion.

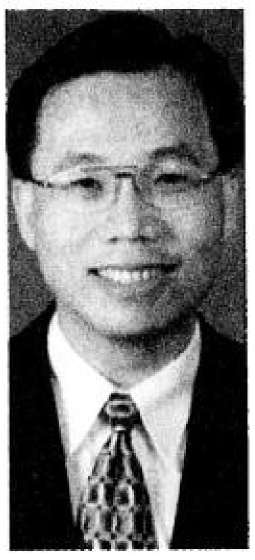
FRANS van Houten

As Frans van Houten, executive vice president for Asia and the Pacific, put it, Philips is focused on "desirable products that will make consumers live better." Besides functionality, the emphasis is also on refinement and elegance, both of which clearly fall within the purview of design, "because technology needs to feel good and should look good," he said. "Good design has been part of our total product creation process these past two years."

In that time, Philips has won the top industry awards for ergonomics and design. For its monitors alone, it got 50 awards last year. In side-by-side product tests, the Philips plasma TV was picked as the best 80 percent of the time.

Philips envisions products that are more personalized while allowing users greater interactivity. Its designers and technicians are working on products that will enable consumers to achieve the ultimate emotional audio/video entertainment experience.

"More and more today we are putting the consumer at the center of our activities and strategies at Philips. We consider the consumer in everything we do, and we cater to his needs," emphasized Aaron Boey, vice president for marketing and Southeast Asia and Pacific operations.

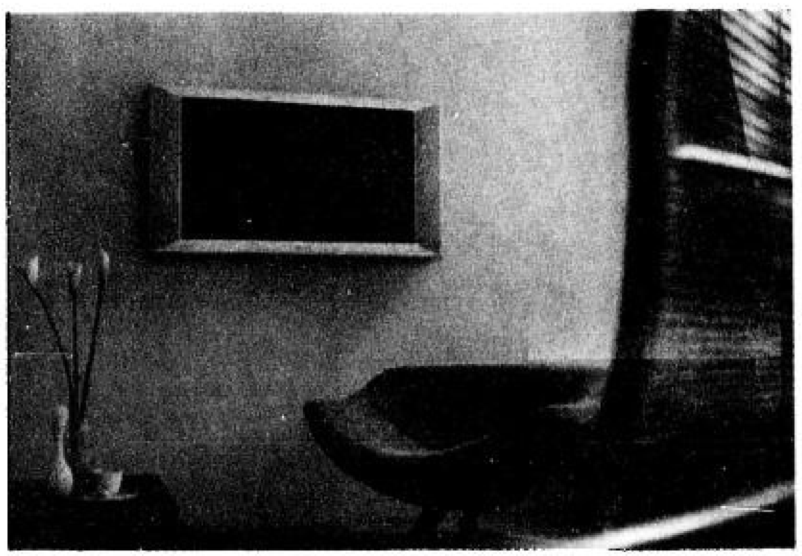


AARON Boey

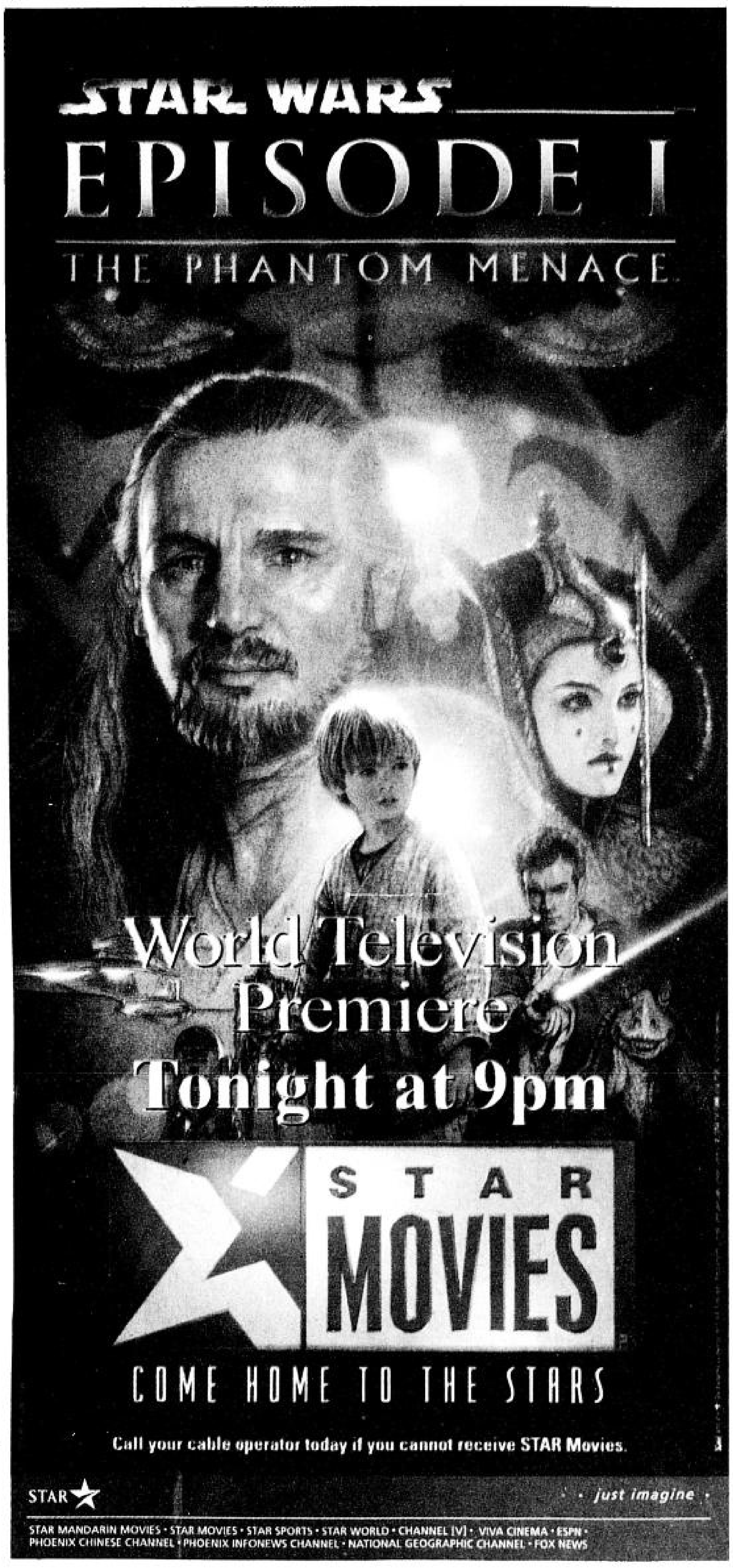
Philips tribe

If there's one thing Philips is fully aware of, it is that Asia, Africa and the Middle East are young markets. There are 1.8 billion young consumers in Asia. Put another way, 70 percent of the population in Asia and the Pacific is below 30. Needless to say, Philips has set its sights on

ON-AIR/ p.E6



SO flat it fits on a wall—Philips' award-winning flat TV



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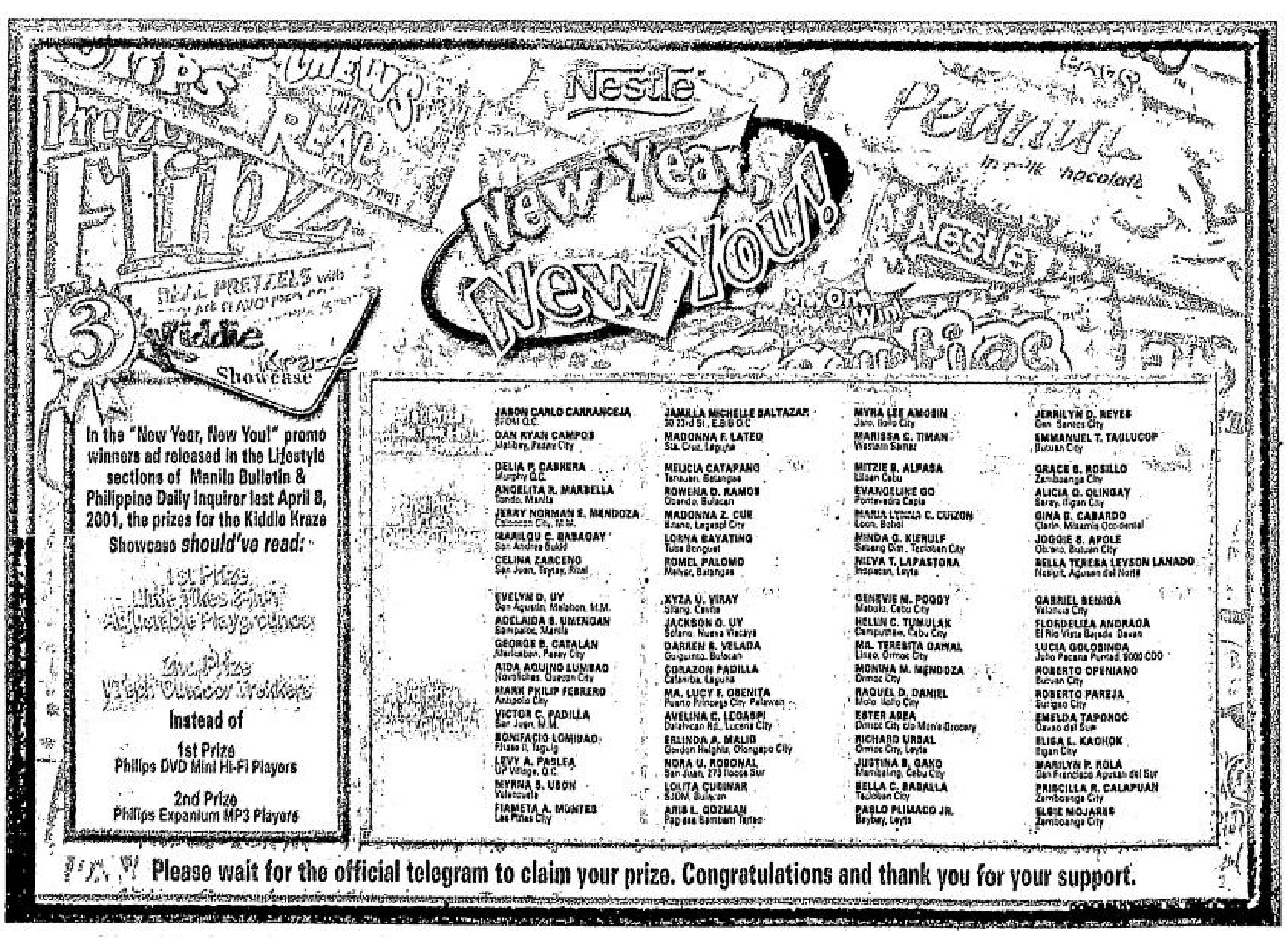

Pretzel Flipz
Nestlé
New Year, New You!
Peanut in milk chocolate
Nestlé
3 Kiddie Kraze Showcase

In the "New Year, New You!" promo winners ad released in the Lifestyle sections of Manila Bulletin & Philippine Daily Inquirer last April 8, 2001, the prizes for the Kiddie Kraze Showcase *should've read:*

1st Prize
Little Tikes 2-in-1 Adjustable Playgrounds

2nd Prize
[illegible] Outdoor Walkers

Instead of

1st Prize
Philips DVD Mini Hi-Fi Players

2nd Prize
Philips Expanium MP3 Players

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CELINA ZARCENO
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Zamboanga City
ELSIE MOJARES
Zamboanga City

Please wait for the official telegram to claim your prize. Congratulations and thank you for your support.

'Di ba ang sarap magising?

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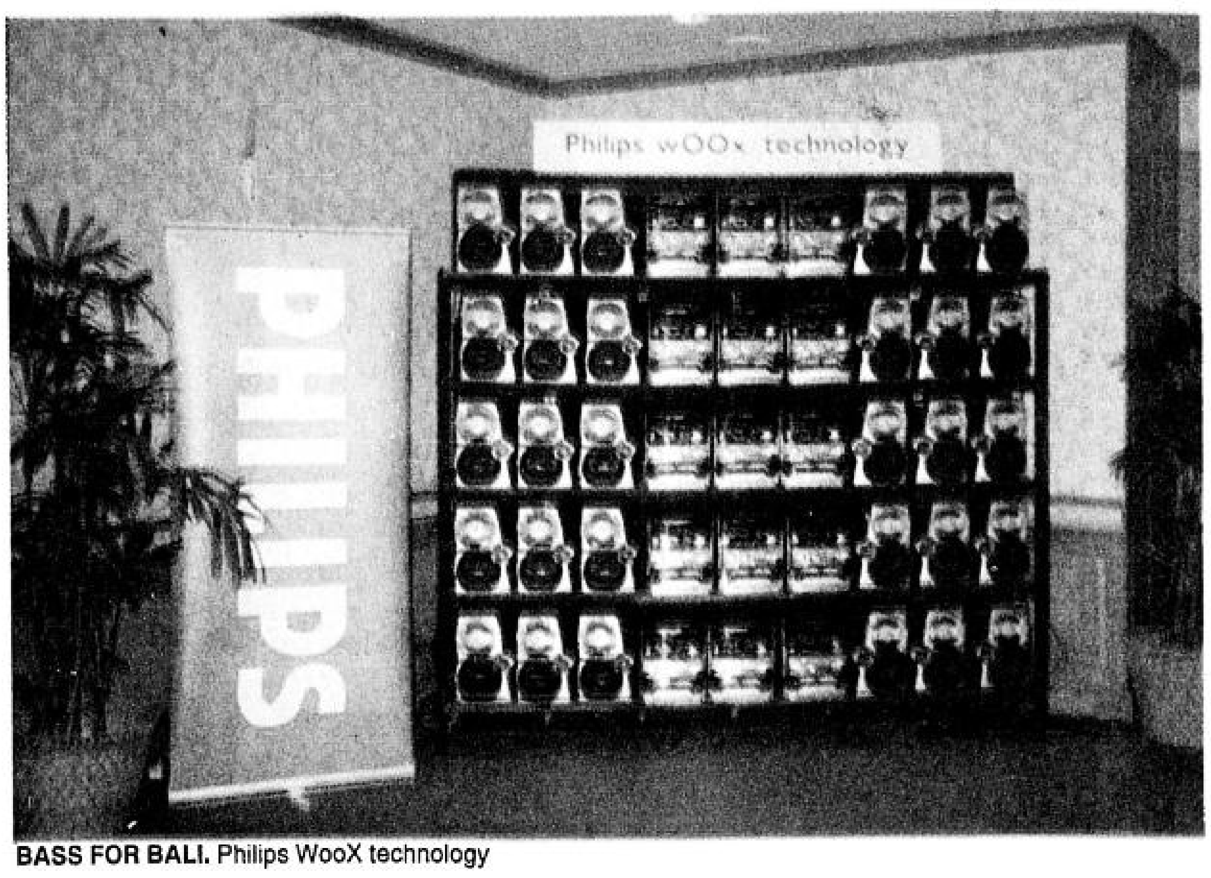
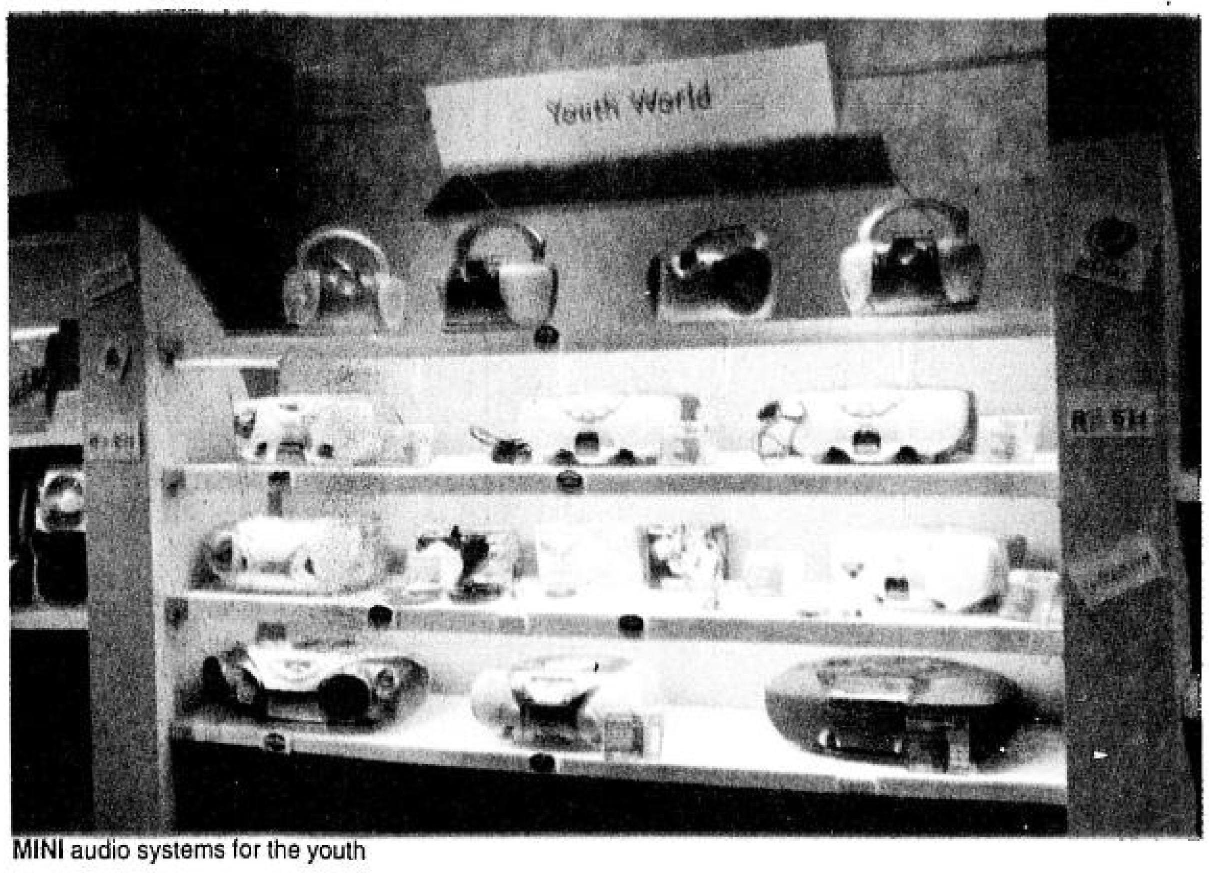
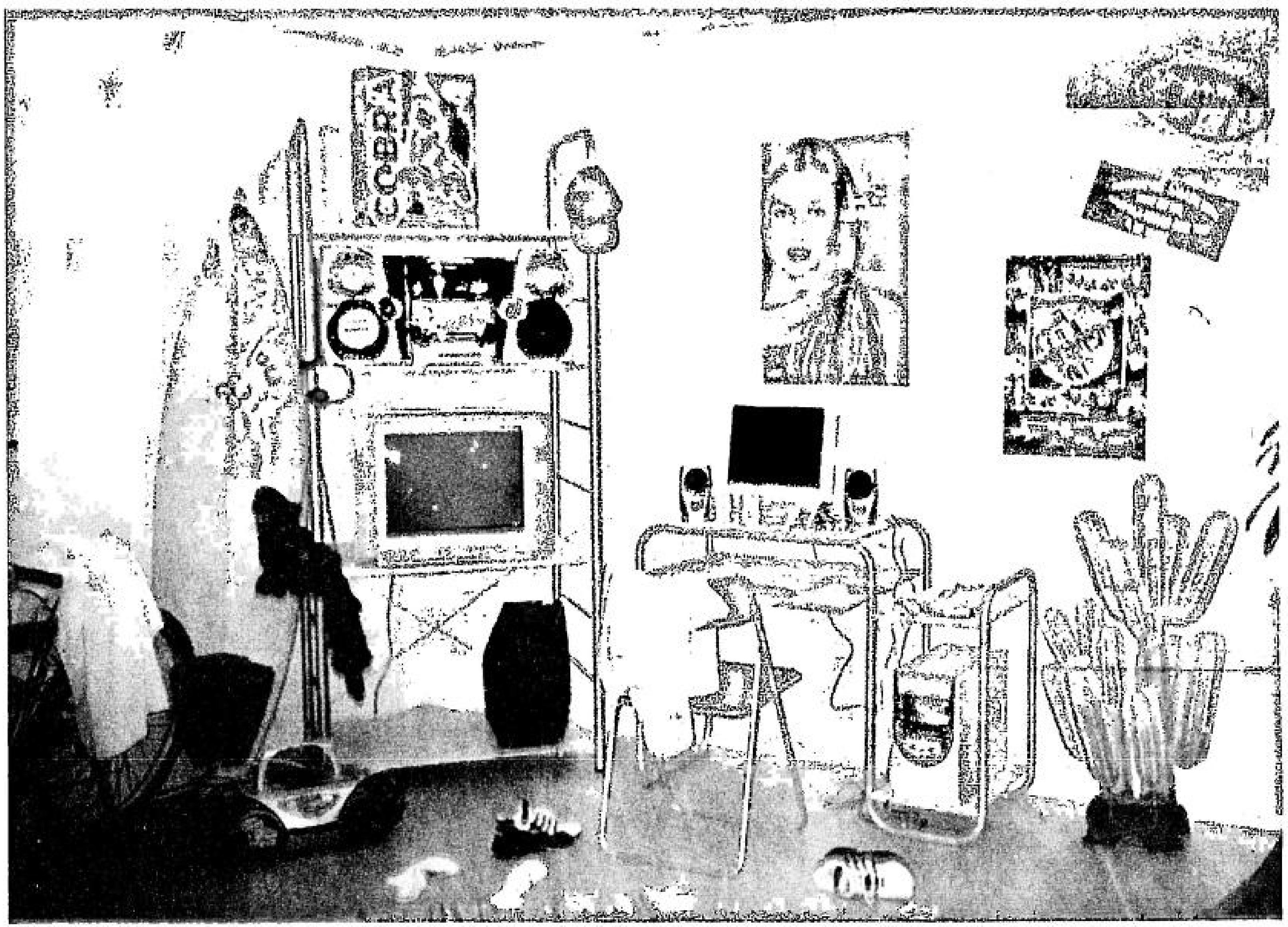


BASS FOR BALI. Philips WooX technology



MINI audio systems for the youth

On-air, on-line, on-ground and in-store



SHOWCASE of Philips products geared to the "Rage X" generation

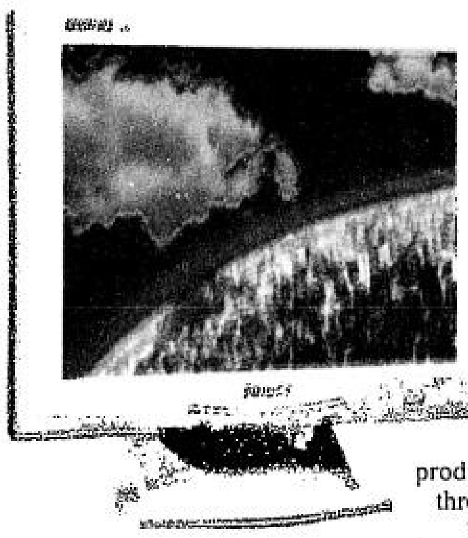
(From page E4)

delivering high performance, high quality products that are at the same time, in the words of the young generation, cool.

Around Philips, the young who are comfortable with technology are referred to as the "Philips tribe," and they keep the company's marketing staff busy thinking up ways not just to attract them to the Philips brand but to make them stay. On-air, on-line, on-ground, in-store is the marketing mantra of Philips.

"An inspirational relationship with the youth is our target," added Boey.

That being the case, Philips' marketing programs are neatly bundled up in what is called "Faces of the Millennium," an approach consisting of music, sports, entertainment and digital activities to showcase products such as Rush, WooX and eXpanium, plasma TV, home cinema, DVD, LCD monitors and PC camera.



LIGHTFRAME monitor

For the first time in 1998, Philips developed an event on its own, as opposed to just being one of the sponsors of a much larger event. Called "Rush X," it was a competition in the extreme sports of skating, skate boarding and BMX biking conducted in Asian cities. In the evenings there were band performances. Naturally there were product displays and demos throughout the event.

Tops in the teen market's must-have list are the audio products that enable the young to "surf, burn and play." If you're in the dark about what that means, go ask a teenager. Quite simply it is how a mountain of music is accessed today. There is the MP3-CD, which enables the youth to bring music outdoors—on the move. MP3 is now in wide range—VCD and DVD, mini and micro, CD-RCRs, eXpanium, and solid state.

At the conference, Philips announced the transformation of "Rush" into "Rage." The first leg of "Rage X" will be conducted in Taipei (May 11-12) and Manila (May 18-20). The second will be in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. The third leg will be in Shanghai and Guangzhou (China) and the fourth in Bangkok and Surabaya (Indonesia). Regional finals will be held in Jakarta. There are plans to add more countries and to hold the games more frequently in each country.

"Our long-term ambition is to own the X-sports platform and lifestyle in Asia and the Pacific," said Boey.

In addition to the 15-29 age bracket, Philips is eyeing the opinion leaders—tastemakers and trendsetters, if you please—many of whom are in fact youngish. The newfound boldness to come out with television sets in lavender, ivory and silver colors, the use of real materials like glass and aluminum and the add-on of such innovations as 100 HZ digital natural motion, which eliminates line flicker and "juddering" to produce smooth moving pictures, are no accidents. Ditto with the Magna-brite lenses, which are used for superior brightness and contrast level. The projection TV, for another example, is a home cinema application with center Dolby digital speakers. The TV-DVD combination boasts of ease of use as it throws caution to the wind by doing away with cables.

BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE. Balinese performers at the al fresco feast where a long line of maidens served each course

Innovations

"Let's make things better," the slogan of Philips, is true but it is not the whole truth. Philips does not only improve on what others have invented; adding a few frills and thrills on things already in existence is not all that Philips is about.

Digital recording is a Philips invention. The DVD with recording capabilities, the DVD+RW, is the company's newest baby, to be commercially launched in September. Compatible with other electronics and PC platforms, the machine can record TV programs and camcorder recordings. The picture quality will never deteriorate. The user will have direct access to specific scenes. Discs recorded on the DVD+RW can be played on any DVD player.

The light frame is another Philips first and, for the uninitiated, it is a computer monitor to which TV quality has been added. It gives a brighter and sharper image so the video application of the Internet results in a better viewing experience for the user.

In the mobile phone market, voice dialing was first introduced by Philips in 1997. Voice command, another Philips invention, will soon be a standard feature of mobile phones.

Then there is the intelligent remote control called Pronto, which works on every brand and every infrared product in the world. Heaven knows what they put in there, but that small gadget has a lot more brains than... forget it, he's down and out. The universal remote control will be priced at $1,000 or thereabouts when it hits the retail market this year. Its black and white predecessor currently sells for $300.

All the new products scheduled to hit the market this year were on display during the Bali conference so the media could stop, look, listen and touch.

Philips started 115 years ago as a family-owned lighting business. Besides lighting it is now making things better all over the world by producing consumer electronics and medical systems. It is continuously working on products that will allow people to make limitless connections. With ease and grace, of course.

Learning from Pinoys as he sells to them

ONCE a year for four years now, Philips makes a splash and flies the media to exciting destinations in Asia to acquaint them with its vision of technology, design and marketing. This year, Philips did better by also flying in each country's manager and press officer for interaction with their respective media groups.

And so there was Tony Lim, Philips country manager in the Philippines, dapper in his Mandarin-collared ramie shirtdress, reserving the best table in the house for the Filipino media at every mealtime. Whether it was the cocktail-dinner on the first evening at the Sheraton beachfront or the Balinese feast at the Bali Hyatt the next night, complete with welcome, warrior and flirting dances and capped by fireworks by the beach—Tony was the genial host.

It was Tony who gave the Filipino group the chance to learn firsthand how his company's vision has been infused with heart and soul. He took over as country manager only in 1999 but already he understands and speaks the language. "*Konti lang, eh,*" he said, although he admits he has a gift for languages, having learned Chinese, Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia, Vietnamese and Tamil.

TONY Lim, Philips' country manager for the Philippines, gets the famous Balinese backrub.

He has found similar characteristics between the Philippine and Thai markets. Consumers don't talk about features, they look for very competitive prices. "One difference is the Philippines has a lot of installment and discount dealers. Philips is very strong there," he said.

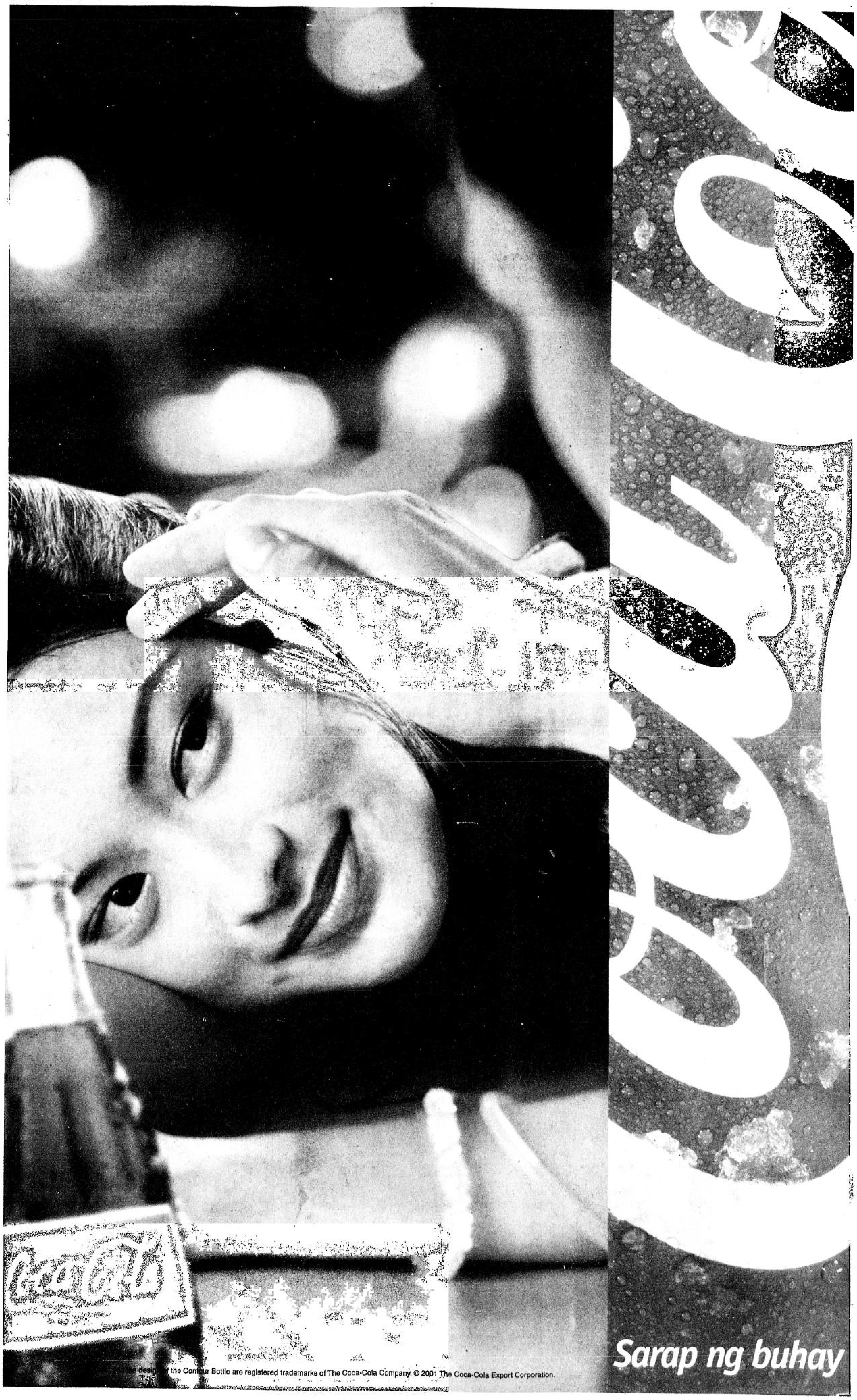
Also unique to the Philippines, according to Tony, is the practice of the whole family chipping in to buy an electronic appliance. In rural areas, the community buys one TV set and everybody watches.

"I would say it's more the woman who makes the decision to buy in the Philippines," he noted. "But now the kids are making more—I watch, I visit the malls and the stores every weekend and I see the kids making the choices."

The Philips business in the Philippines is more on TV but audio is fast catching up, he observed.

What is more endearing about Tony Lim is that he genuinely appreciates Filipinos. "I learn from them. My wife and I take walks on weekends and we watch them. They've made me think. Coming from where I was before, where my focus was work, work, work, I appreciate how they enjoy life. Filipinos are a happy people compared to others. From them I've learned to enjoy the quality of life. Now I spend more time with my family."

Tony has two kids, 15 and 11, studying in Singapore. The third child, 18 months, stays with him and his wife in their home in Makati. "Now I have more time for this baby," he said. ***CBF***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Sarap ng buhay

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A complete retailing experience at Big R

SAVINGS are certainly one way to draw consumers in and Big R Supercenter has done just that. Proof of this are the lines of both wholesalers and individual shoppers that queue in front of the store as early as 7 a.m.

Big R on Quirino Avenue in Novaliches held its grand opening on April 24. Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were led by John Gokongwei, his son Lance Gokongwei and QC Mayor Mel Mathay.

Since its soft opening last December, Big R has gotten known for its competitive pricing strategy and expansive fresh food section. Fernando Yu, Big R's director for operations, said that whatever savings the store gets is passed on directly to the consumers. "That way, we are able to lower our prices."

Yu added that they keep the stores open until 10 p.m. in order to accommodate shoppers who come after office hours. An added plus for its shoppers is Big Mail, a monthly direct-mailer program which informs regular shoppers of specially priced items for a limited period of time. "We send out mailers to 20-40,000 customers a month and have received a lot of positive feedback to the extent that we receive calls and sometimes letters inquiring about our next selection," he says.

A COMPLETE/ p.E2

OFFICIALLY opening Big R are (from left) James Go, Frederick Go, QC Mayor Mel Mathay, John Gokongwei and Lance Gokongwei.

PHOTOS BY ROGER CARPIO

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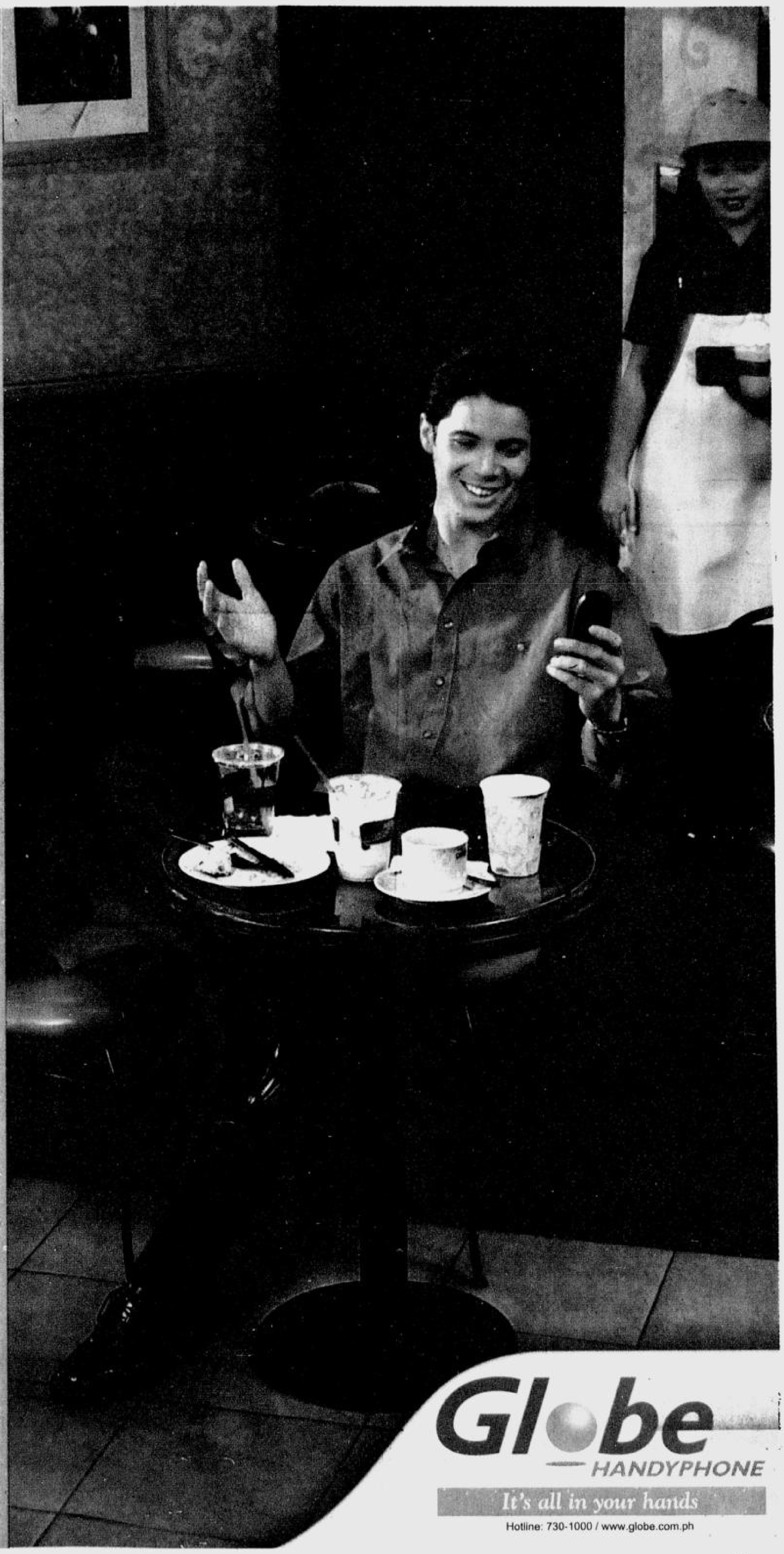

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PINATUBO 10 YEARS AFTER

Beyond the valley of la

By Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Romy Homillada

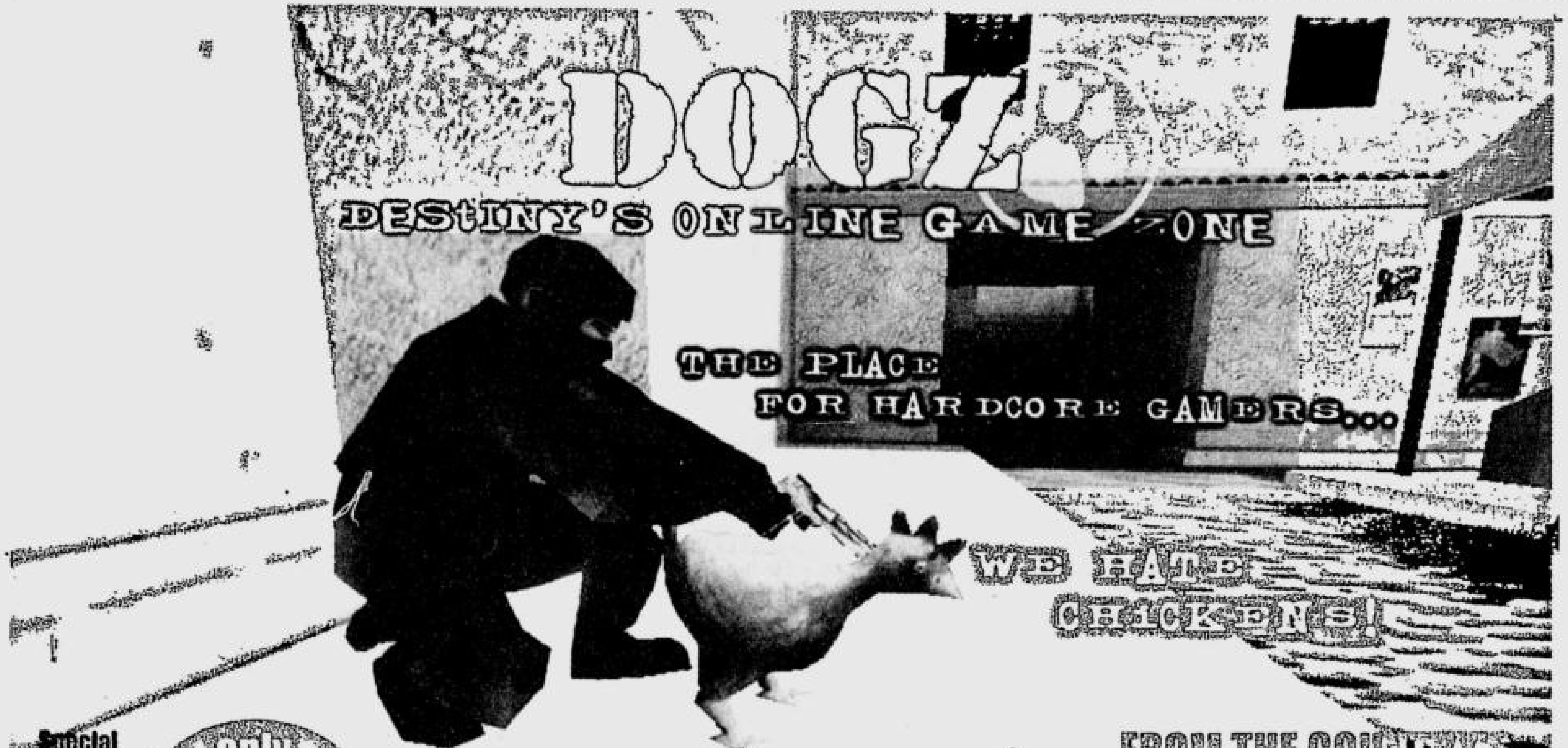
WHEN Mt. Pinatubo in Botolan, Zambales, erupted in mid-1991, we covered the cataclysm for three days from the vantage point of Clark Air Base in Pampanga.

It was one of the most destructive volcanic eruptions ever recorded in human history. Its effects are being felt up to now.

It made up the minds of the Americans to close down once and for all their military facilities in the country, first Clark then the naval base in nearby Subic. The late photographer Emil Salas and I were the last journalists to leave Clark as it closed its gates and the first to see it become history, that early morning of June 15, 1991.

BEYOND/ p.F6

A Date with Comfort and Elegance.
Bristol Shoes
Executive Class



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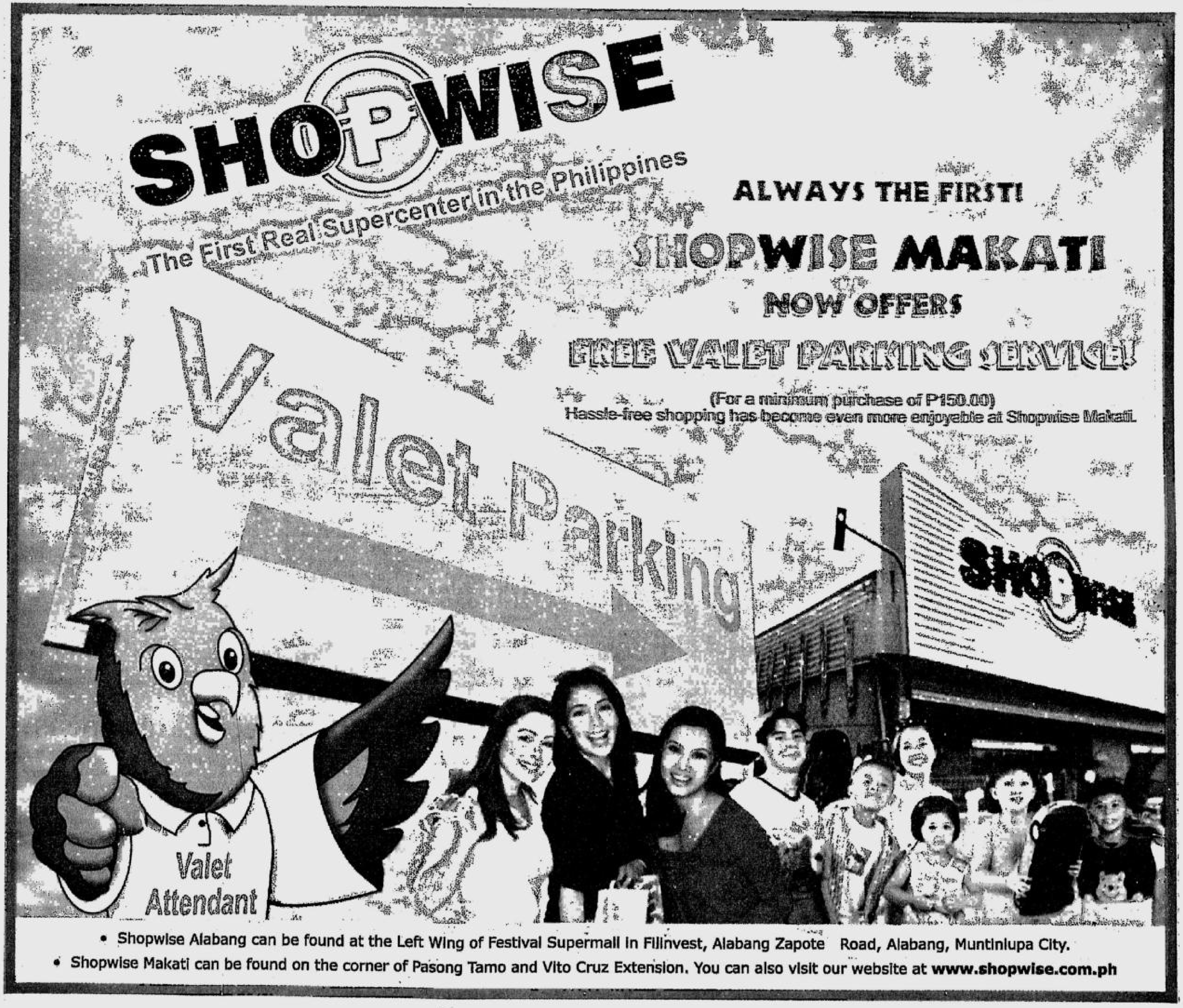

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A virgin lass almost made love to a stranger

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I'm 19. I've been changing college course every year because my majors were too difficult, and I must admit I have also been too involved in going out with my friends. I guess I just hated the challenge and only want to enjoy life so I skipped classes.

I am supposed to graduate next year, but because I failed in a lot of subjects, graduation is probably still two years away. I'm worried about how my parents are taking these, but what can I do? I want to change my life and sometimes I think I either want to die or get married.

Another thing has been bothering me lately. I met this guy on the Internet and we chatted for about 30 minutes. He offered me a joy ride so we could talk in private and, when we met, I accepted because he seemed like a nice guy.

***Tita*, he brought me to a motel. When I asked him why, he said "everybody's doing it." I told him I was a virgin and he respected me. But it was the first time I experienced petting and necking. And he was on top of me and said he had to do that or else *sasakit daw ang puson niya*. (I don't know exactly what he meant by that.)**

Now I'm worried about what he thinks of me. Does he think I'm cheap? I told this to my friends and they said I should be glad because at least I'm still intact.

I've never had a boyfriend. I have lots of admirers and MUs, *tita*, but I don't really like them. And as to what happened to me in that motel, it still amazes me that I almost made love with a stranger. Instead of feeling guilty, I'm happy because I had that experience and I'm no longer naïve about such things. Is this normal?

MG

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

I'm sure a lot of people are knitting their brows now because instead of saying you nearly got raped by a stranger, you're saying you found the experience positively educational and, in fact, you almost "made love" with him.

Those people, of course, would say you are not normal at all. But don't get depressed by that. "Normal" and "happy" are very subjective things, *hija*, and the two concepts are not always in harmony. That's basically because "normal" is defined by society, while "happy" is defined by the individual. And the individual and society do not always agree with each other. (That is normal.)

So let's avoid trouble by not defining one in terms of the other. Let's just ask, instead, if what you feel about your near-rape experience is understandable.

Yes, I think it is understandable. You were not raped. That, in itself, is enough reason to feel happy. Plus, it's very much a part of human nature: Instead of being traumatized by near-disasters, we sometimes laugh about them, buoyed by the benefit of knowing much worse it could have been. ("I lost my nose, yes, but, hey, my entire head could have been crushed to a pulp! I would have looked worse!").

What make it further understandable for you to view the experience positively are your academic problems. I'm sure you want to get them off your mind. And they were, indeed, bumped off by your experience in the motel, an experience that, unlike indisputable failed grades, was amenable to positive interpretation.

The danger, if you ask me, is not in finding your feelings about that encounter understandable. The danger, rather, is in romanticizing it.

You've just met someone who, as the song says, is *maginoo pero bastos*: A gentleman rogue, an amalgam of civility and raging passion. And at that time when your honor lay defenseless before him, he desisted at your say-so from ravishing you. Such a man is the stuff of romance novels—the raging bull petted to submission by the virgin lass.

Predictably, however, the princess subsequently pities the rouge for suppressing his passionate nature, falls in love with him for respecting her so much and, eventually, allows the bull to rage. She is gored, but cannot call it rape, not even after she realized it was not love that led her to it, but only his cunning and her curiosity.

If I were you, I'd be wary when that guy invites me for another ride. It is quite possible he is not being a gentleman but only, as I said, being cunning. Had he taken full liberty of you and you accused him of rape, he could not argue that you had consented because you were sweethearts (not if you met him for the first time) or that you were a girl of ill repute (not if he was the first guy you've been to bed with). No, *hija*, he desisted because he knew his alternative to immediate bliss is a trip to the netherworld via a lethal injection.

It was your good fortune that his instinct for self-preservation was stronger than his baser urges. But not every guy is like him, and you won't always be lucky. So please be very careful, my dear, and take care not to mistake romance for grave risk. Keep that in mind and maybe you can truly say that you are "no longer naïve about such things."

Thrilling and interesting though they are, all these, however, are a diversion, not a solution, to your original problem: Your academics.

I think you will only be wasting your time and your parents' money if you keep enrolling while you're not sure that you need or want a college education. Decide that matter this summer. Don't enroll next semester, or even the next, if you need more time to think.

Get a job. Observe life more closely. See the difference between working for a living and working for grades. And while you're at it, see how far an undergraduate like you could rise in the professional ladder. Or assess the chances of success if you were to devote your energy to your own business enterprise. Or mull over the alternative of being a full-time homemaker.

You're young, *hija*, so it's very much your right to have fun. But don't have too much of it now, or you might have very little left for later.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

God's special book reveals His love for us

MUSTARD SEED

Joseph Galdon, S.J.

THE BIBLE is very good for us. We all do need the Bible because it is God's words of love and His will for us. Jesus, as son of God, bore witness to the divine authority and the trust in worthiness of the Scriptures in the Bible. He said: "The words of the Old Testament are the words I spoke to you while I was with you. I said that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses, and the prophets and the Psalms in the Old Testament." Jesus also said to the Pharisees that "Old Testament scriptures should not be broken or violated." Jesus also said: "Do not think I came to destroy the Old Testament Law or Prophets. I did not come to destroy them, but to fulfill them in our present time." St. Paul therefore called the Bible the Holy Scriptures. He said that "the Bible is the Holy Scripture, sacred writings and the oracles of God for us."

Why is the Bible good

The Bible, which is the word of God, is God's special book. The word Bible is from the Greek word *biblios*, which means a "book." The Bible is a great book. It is one of the oldest books in the world, but it is also one of the most modern books. Portions of the Bible were written about 4,000 years ago, but they are still modern books! Many people were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write the Bible. The Bible includes history, science, law, biography, philosophy, prophecy, drama and romances, poetry and songs. They are all manifestations of God for us.

The Bible is full of the thoughts, plans and promises of God for all of us.

The Bible is divided into two sections—the Old Testament and the New Testament. There are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament for a total of 66 books in the Bible. Those books were written by at least 40 different writers who were inspired by the Holy Spirit. The books of the Bible were written in three languages—Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic. The last Bible writer died about 1,900 years ago.

The words in the Scripture are the words of eternal life. The Scripture tells us the story of God revealing Himself to us and His plan of salvation and holiness for all people everywhere. Therefore we must understand as much as we can about the Bible, which is the word of God. It is in the Scripture that we find the revelation of God and all that He desires for us.

God delights in revealing himself to human kind of people in the Bible. In the Old Testament God revealed Himself to chosen individuals. To them He spoke and revealed His will. The things he spoke to them were written down in the Old Testament. God chose to reveal Himself and His will in the sacred Scriptures in the Old Testament and in the person of His Son Jesus in the New Testament, and then in the writing of several of Jesus' apostles.

Value of the Bible

Therefore we must understand the Bible, which is the Word of God. The only way to do is to study the Bible with a heart and a mind that is open to the Holy Spirit's illumination on the love and the will of God and His lessons for us. The Bible is also prophetic. It reveals God's will for us through His Word and His works. It also reveals God's plans and productions for us.

The Bible is a book of wealth for our needs for love and holiness. The Bible gives us salvation. It is a necessary part of spiritual growth and improvement. It preaches spiritual cleaning and spiritual freedom and liberty. It warns us against sin and speaks with the words of God to transform us and help us overcome sin.

The Bible is also a source of the gifts of the Holy Spirit—faith and wisdom and understanding. It instructs us and exhorts us to be holy. It also gives us the peace of God. The Bible says may the peace of the Lord be with you.

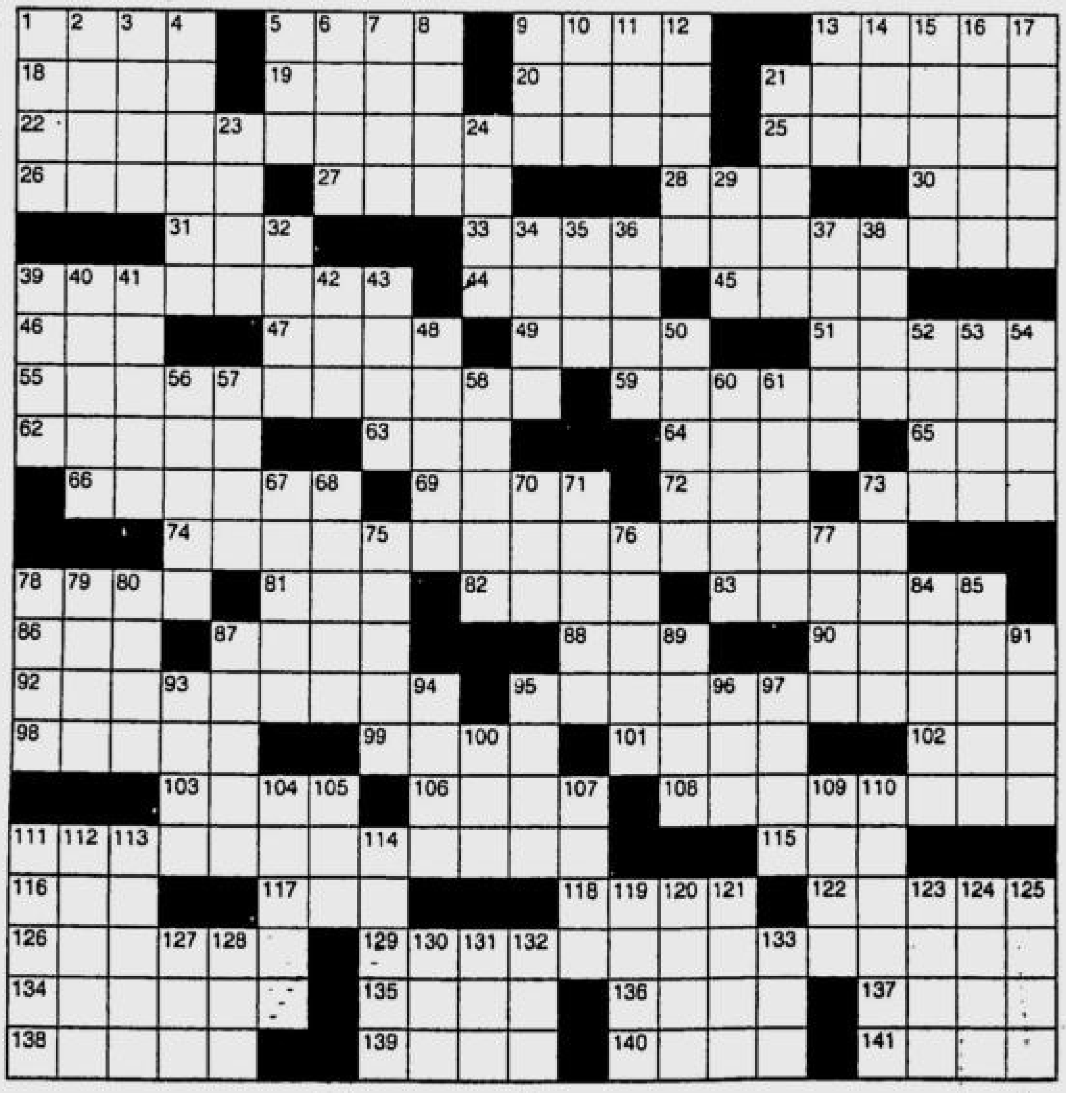
Prayers for a good Bible

So let us pray to God that we will understand the Bible. "Day by day, oh dear Lord, three things I pray—to know you more clearly in the Bible, to love you more dearly and to follow you more nearly in your Bible. Here I am, Lord, I am reading your Bible. I will go Lord where you lead me in the Bible. I will hold you and your people in my love."

Another good Bible prayer is to the Holy Spirit: "Come Holy Spirit. I need you in the Bible. I pray that you come with your strength and love and come in your special way. Holy Spirit, I need you! Come with your light and your guidance for us in your own holy way in the Bible."

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

HOLLYWOOD HEADLINES



ACROSS
1 Hirt hit
5 Kudrow or Hartman
9 Lucas character
13 Gullible one
18 Rueful cry
19 Certain Semite
20 Imported cheese
21 Extragalactic object
22 DIRECTOR PICKS KAPLAN TO PLAY LINCOLN!
25 Author Le Guin
26 Prepare to propose
27 Valueless
28 Hum bug?
30 ABA member
31 Fix a fight
33 "WHEEL" RATINGS PLUNGE!
39 More meager
44 "Graf —"
45 Navigation hazard
46 Film, for short
47 Castilian custard
49 Commoner
51 Arm bones
55 CARNEY IN NEW FILM!
59 Vaudeville staple
62 Disdain
63 Unduly
64 "— -Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)
65 JFK Library architect
66 Beethoven symphony
69 Velvety plant
72 Pro-gun grp.
73 Little helper?
74 SANDLER GOES ON TOUR!
78 Ever's partner
81 Slugger's stat
82 Attempt
83 Sulky
86 Moon crawler
87 "— a Song Go . . ."
88 TV s "The — Patrol"
90 Prelim
92 Plumbing tool
95 AFFLECK WINS SECOND OSCAR!
98 Ho hi
99 — Kong
101 Roof part
102 "Holy cow!"
103 "Casablanca" character
106 Crucifix
108 Agitated
111 HAGMAN PLANS NUPTIALS!
115 Piggy
116 Khan opener?
117 Castilian cry
118 Head set?
122 Croc's kin
126 Mideastern mall?
129 PAQUIN GETS STARRING ROLE!
134 In public
135 Row
136 General Bradley
137 Final
138 Alarm button
139 Raucous noise
140 — Hari
141 Actress Merrill

DOWN
1 Item in a trunk
2 Economist Greenspan
3 Ming thing
4 Behind a windjammer
5 Fall behind
6 OPEC member
7 "Elephant Boy" star
8 Cain's victim
9 "Of course!"
10 Harem room
11 Apply gently
12 Petite parasite
13 Mongrel
14 Owns
15 Nothing special
16 Mediterranean island
17 Brooklyn school
21 Suppress
23 Skirt feature
24 Skiers' mecca
29 Wee one
32 Present
34 Datebook abbr.
35 — Aviv
36 Charges
37 "The March King"
38 Fedora fabric
39 Mineral springs
40 She brought out the beast in men
41 Part owner?
42 Urban transport
43 Absorbed
48 Ruth's mother-in-law
50 Mont —
52 Puppy bites
53 Fighter pilots
54 "SNL" bit
56 Haunted-house sound
57 Oklahoma city
58 Alex Haley book
60 Pianist Chasins
61 Bandleader Perez
67 Bergonzi or Ponti
68 "Waves of grain" color
70 Fast flier
71 Bright
73 Between three
75 Bum a ride
76 Humble
77 Soprano's showcase
78 Jessica of "Dark Angel"
79 Comic Carter
80 Melville novel
84 Play ground?
85 Great Lake natives
87 Po land
89 It'll give you a lift
91 Change for a five
93 Helicopter sound
94 Circle dance
95 Sikorsky or Stravinsky
96 First offender
97 Jay's house
100 Negative correlative
104 It may be tall
105 Internet acronym
107 Colors
109 Demetrius' duds
110 Inclined
111 Sweat and slave
112 Dumbstruck
113 Brings down the house
114 Thought-provoking
119 Particle
120 Maffia or Downey
121 Petty clash?
123 Prepare to fly
124 — even keel
125 Sita's husband
127 Chemical suffix
128 PC key
130 Long or Peeples
131 Unused
132 Dadaism founder
133 Lingerie item

ANSWER ON PAGE F5

STI Pre-school

STI offers holistic approach in early child education

IT is in the early years that the brain masters so many activities with such ease. They happen during what scientists call critical periods, or windows of opportunity. Once the critical period passes, however, they are gone forever. Improving a child's potential after these windows of opportunity is close is far more difficult—in some cases impossible.

These recent scientific findings are now being applied in the childhood education and classroom environment by some progressive educators. Foremost, if not pioneering, among these group of educators is the STI Pre-School. It is one of the few preschools that offer pre-nursery for 2½-year-old children. It also offers toddler's class starting from 1½-year-old.

STI Pre-School goes beyond providing the 3Rs (Reading, wRiting, aRithmetic) required by DECS for preschool. Its core curriculum consists of the Integrated Communication Arts Program, Meaningful Math Experiences, Investigative Method in Science, Language Enrichment Program, and Music and Movement Program.

It likewise integrates progressive and classical methods of early childhood education. Technological equipment enhances proven teaching methodologies. Structured classroom environment supplemented by "Busy Hands Room" that provides various activity stations where children can try and apply classroom lessons, because children are "hands-on learners."

Last, STI Pre-School provides learning programs tailor-fit to the child's age and readiness while fostering the development of core values like faith in God, love of country and respect for human beings. Moreover, experienced and highly trained teachers make excellent surrogate mothers as well and provide the child with the attention and caring he needs.

STI Pre-school utilizes a holistic approach in early child education, developing a child's physical, intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual and moral aspects in a fun, technology-rich environment.

School for older special kids opens

WHILE schools for children with various learning disabilities continue to sprout all over the country, not many institutions offer a place where pre-adolescent and adolescent special kids can go. This poses a problem to parents.

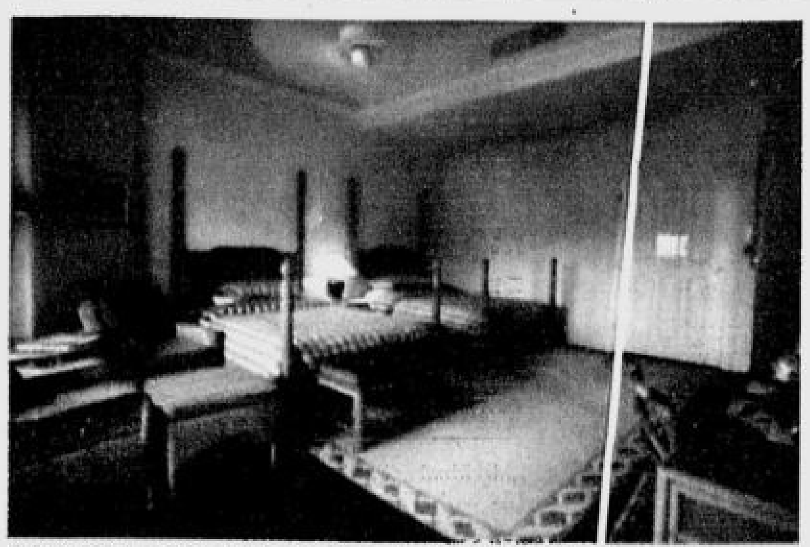
To help fill the gap, Maryridge School was established. Located in BF Homes, Parañaque, Maryridge offers classes for the so-called pre-vocational age group and has developed a curriculum for differently abled children aged 10 years old and above. These include children with autism and those with reading, writing and mathematical disabilities.

"We noticed that there are a lot of special schools for young children, but not for older kids. What happens then is that parents are at a loss where to bring them next. Some are forced to go into private tutorial, which defeats the purpose because they cannot be integrated with other kids. On the other hand, some are enrolled in regular schools, which are not equipped to deal with special kids," observes Joji Reynes, Maryridge School academic supervisor.

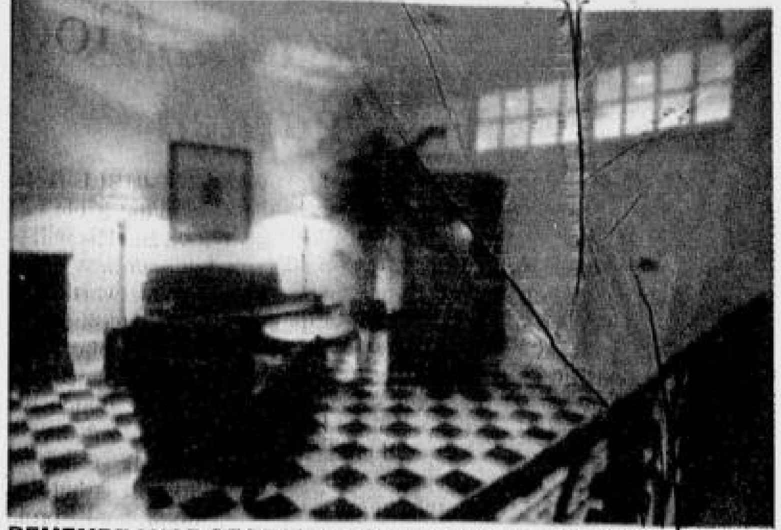
Maryridge's curriculum not only will encourage children to learn academics but also help them adapt well to their environment by learning other practical life skills such as food preparation, taking care of themselves, safety skills, handling money (functional accounting skills), and vocational skills like crafts making, sewing, baking and others.

On its first year of operations, Maryridge School will also offer regular kinder, Grade I and Grade II classes for children with ADHS (Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder), ODD (Oppositional Defiant Disorder) and other neuro-biological situations that hinder a child's learning process.

Call Joji or Mae at 829-1871 or visit Maryridge School at 64 F. Cruz St., BF Parañaque (beside the Presentation of Child Jesus Church on Aguirre Avenue).



A TYPICAL Landmark room decorated in Khmer style, bearing the same configurations as in 1929



REMEMBRANCE OF TIMES PAST. One of the landings with its leather sofa and armchairs takes you back to colonial times.

FORMAL dining, Khmer style, at the Restaurant Le Grand

Historic hotel holds its own in magnificent surroundings

By Kitty Go

THE CHANCE to travel in style while experiencing a sense of history is sought by countless travelers but available to only a few. Traveling in style does not just involve the journey but the accommodations at the destination. And there is no greater thrill than re-living times past in a historic hotel.

Many old hotels have been reconstructed beyond recognition (such as the Manila Hotel whose ballroom, once one of the most elegant halls in the country, now looks like a Chinese restaurant) or worse, torn down to make way for new buildings. Then there are the many old hotels in Europe that still maintain their cachet but have not upgraded their facilities or services (air conditioning and 24-hour room service and still nonexistent in many expensive European hotels). Finally, there are some hotels that are just old. Like the 75-year-old Hotel Majestic in Ho Chi Minh, which is just that—75 years old. However, though rare, there are jewels like the Grand Hotel d'Angkor in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

POOL fit for a Khmer king: 35 m of bliss amid a tropical garden

Hotel of choice

The Grand Hotel d'Angkor is the last word in traveling in style. It has been restored to its 1929 glory (complete with the elevator of that year that is still in use) and is currently managed by the Singapore-based Raffles International Ltd. From the '30s to the '60s, the Grand Hotel d' Angkor was the hotel of choice for inveterate world travelers seeking to experience the dazzling Angkor temples. The Angkor temple complex, the largest place of worship in the world, was built between the 9th and 14th centuries, at the height of Khmer civilization. From their command post at Angkor, Khmer kings at the time ruled over what we now know as Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam and Yunnan, the southernmost part of China.

As one of the few remaining grand historic hotels in the world, the Grand Hotel d'Angkor is an experience in itself. In its heyday and since its reopening in 1997, the hotel has been home to royalty, diplomats, film stars and writers. The producer and director of "Tomb Raider" (Angelina Jolie's latest movie shot in Angkor) stayed at the hotel. The hotel has 130 rooms, 50 of which are Landmark rooms, meaning they are located in the original four-story building facing Prince Norodom Sihanouk's Summer Palace and a manicured public park, maintained by the hotel. In many ways, the Grand Hotel d'Angkor, with its history and park, parallels what Manila Hotel was and should be with its location across from and its view of Rizal Park.

Rarified world

The rarified world of the Grand Hotel d'Angkor begins at the time of check-in. You don't register at a desk marked "Reception." Instead, you are escorted to The Conservatory. Cooled by slow-moving overhead fans, this tea room by day and piano bar by night is decorated in colonial style. Wicker armchairs, Khmer area rugs and Western antique furniture are surrounded by potted palms and lotus floral arrangements.

While sipping a drink and dabbing at your face with a refreshingly fragrant cold towel, you wait as the staff fills out your forms for you. You hand over your passport and credit card and they do the rest. When you get your key (and it is a key, not one of those plastic Ving cards), you are escorted to your room via the authentic caged elevator, which to today's GenX techie would be what a typewriter is to a computer. The black and white tiled hallways are lined with original photographs of the Angkor temples. Details such as a writing desk near the landing on every floor take you back to an era when one wrote their correspondence or journals outside their rooms and guests stayed longer in one place and were therefore more sociable.

The Landmark rooms in the old building maintain the same configuration as those of the original rooms. Decorated in traditional Khmer style, each room has high ceilings with fans, colorfully tiled verandahs that look out to either the 35-meter pool or the Summer Palace and park. The best part of the room for the weary traveler is the deep bathtub you can sink into after a day climbing and exploring the breathtaking temples.

The Personality Suites, all located in the old building, have anterooms with black and white tiled floors, a larger verandah with a daybed upholstered in Khmer patterned cottons, and claw-footed bathtubs. These extra large rooms bear the names of personalities who had a passion for Cambodia and the Angkor temples—Henri Mouhot, the French naturalist who revealed the existence of Angkor to the world in the 19th century; John Thomson, one of the first photographers to capture the temples on film; Henri Marchal, who restored one of the smaller but also one of the most beautiful temples, Banteay Srei.

Amazing service

There are two villas, the Villa Uma and Villa Kama, both nestled in the inner gardens near the swimming pool. Each villa is practically a house with two bedrooms, living and dining areas, private verandahs and private wine cellars.

The amazing service and facilities at the hotel can be attributed to the staff's hard work and a reliable backroom. Not to mention the pricey room rates. Cambodia area manager Gilbert Madhavan laughs off the charge of exorbitant prices. "... But we have the Raffles standard to maintain. We had to train staff for six months and have a com-

Paolo
4 na buwan 3 ara w

Isang subo....

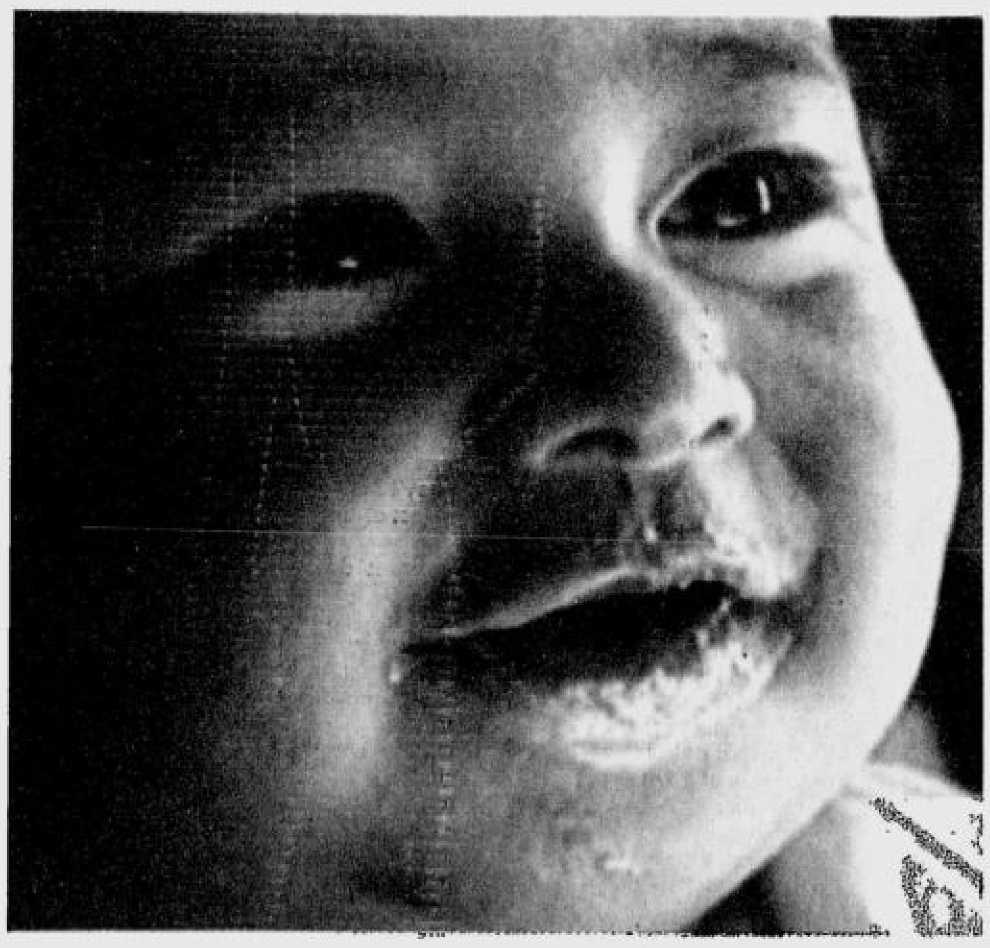
namilog ang kanyang mga mata.

Sa pangalawa, pangatlo...

hinahanap-hanap na niya.

Sarap na sarap.

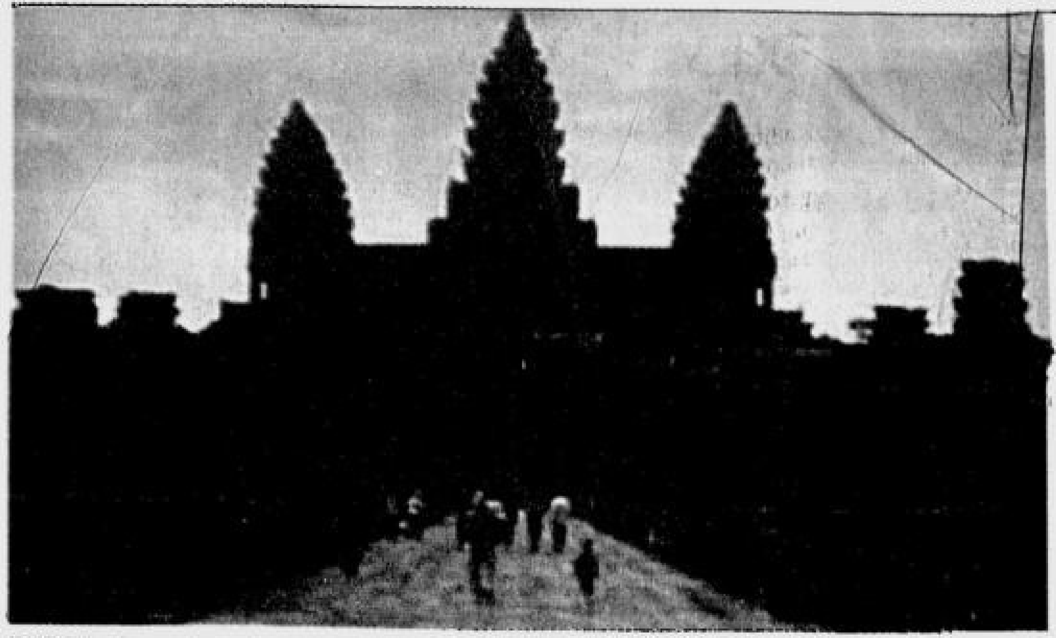
Ang takaw niya talaga.



Nestlé
CERELAC
Wheat-Banana
4-6 ONWARDS

Nestlé NUTRITION

Complete FIRST Solid Food
May kumpletong bitamina't mineral para sa kanyang tamang paglaki.



BUILT in the early 12th century, Angkor Wat is the jewel in the crown of the Angkor temple complex.

Historic hotel holds its own in magnificent surroundings

(From page F3)

plicated backroom which may be standard for most countries but not Cambodia. We have our own dry cleaners, water tanks, generators… things that are taken for granted elsewhere."

Civilized time

Staying at the Hotel d'Angkor took me back to a civilized time when people rested in between tours, took walks, dressed for dinner, and had leisurely meals. During the three days we were there, we left for the temples at 8 a.m.—a late hour compared to other aficionados who set off at dawn—then returned to the comfort of the hotel between 11 a.m. and noon. We would have a buffet lunch of continental and Cambodian food at Café d'Angkor, the hotel coffee shop that is decorated in traditional French country style. The hotel also packs lunches and picnics for those going on longer day trips.

We usually started the afternoon at 3 to avoid the heat and still have enough time to walk through the temples until sunset. Between lunch and 3 p.m., I would take a 15-minute walk through the frangipani-scented park and along the river to the Old Market or visit the floating village market. Laden with purchases, I returned to the hotel by hitching a ride on a motorbike for a dollar.

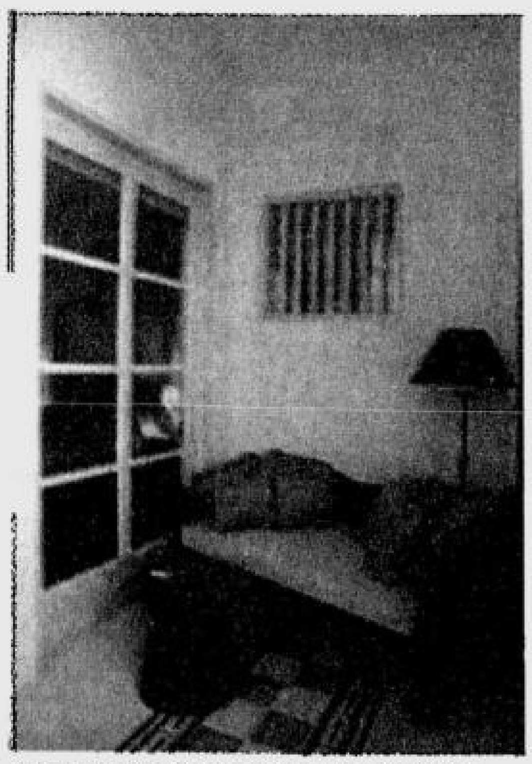
Evenings found us having drinks at the Writer's Bar (in The Conservatory) before dinner at the formal Restaurant Le Grand, where they serve traditional Khmer cuisine. Adjoining the Restaurant Le Grand is the Traveler's Bar, a place that transports you back in time as you sink into the overstuffed wicker sofas with a cocktail and a book on Angkor after a day of sightseeing. The original photographs of the temples from the 1860s add to the feeling of stepping back in time.

After dinner, you could walk through the original gates of the hotel entrance, now gracing the entry to the Elephant Bar. With its art deco interiors, the Elephant Bar is a popular after-dinner pub with a pool table, bar, a popcorn cart that really makes popcorn and private KTV rooms.

The Grand Hotel d'Angkor, together with the Raffles Group, does not come into a country like Cambodia without giving back. The hotel has several charity programs which many returning guests and staff participate in. Among the programs are the Clean River Campaign, the educational Reach program, and the Clean Angkor Campaign to benefit the crowd-drawing sights, Angkor Wat and Bayon.

Grand Hotel d'Angkor is at 1 Vithei Charles de Gaulle, Khum Svavy Dang Kum, Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia. Room rates start at about $310 per night. Call (855) 63-963888, fax (855) 63-963168, or e-mail ghda@worldmail.com.kh or raffles.grand@bigpond.com.kh

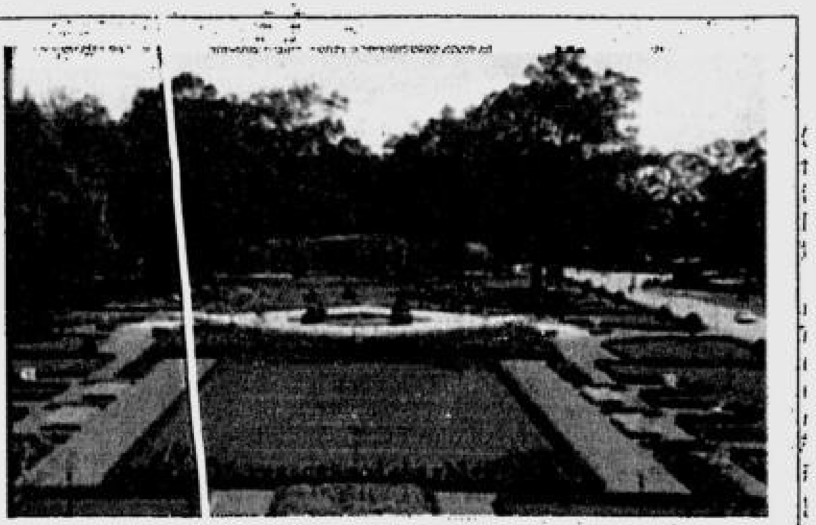
E-mail the author at styledowager@hotmail.com



A BALCONY of one of the suites featuring Vietnamese tiles and a wooden Khmer daybed upholstered in Khmer cottons.

The Grand's garden

THE 60,000-SQ-M park between the Grand Hotel d'Angkor and the Summer Palace is worth a walk through if not for the heady scent of frangipani, which lingers all day and gets stronger at twilight, than for the sight of over 20,000 trees and shrubs. Some plants are as old as the hotel. There are four different gardens—Formal, Temple, Lotus and River—connected by gravel walkways, ponds and a kaleidoscope of plants and flowers such as red flame trees, roses of India, red frangipani, golden trumpets, yellow canna, golden dew and spider lilies. There is even a little temple in case you want to say a prayer.



THE GARDEN of grand delights: 60,000 sq m of over 20,000 plants in front of the Summer Palace. What more could you ask for?

Why do mothers everywhere trust Henry J. Heinz with their kids?

Good breeding.

Where it takes three hours to pay tax

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco-Giron

IN FEW places like Las Piñas and San Juan, taxpayers are lucky they are spared the hassles Parañaque real estate taxpayers experience. Publicist and food writer Lydia Castillo wrote the following:

"First, you have to get a tax assessment and a number card at two different offices in the Parañaque municipal hall. Then you wait for your number to be called so you can get your payment slip. After that, you fall in line for the nth time and wait for your turn to pay your tax. What makes it worst is that during the three hours spent mostly under the sun, you see favored people pulling ahead of you without sweating it out at the queues because they have influential connections at the municipal office."

On another occasion, Lydia and her daughter went to the Parañaque real estate office to wait for the release of a land title certificate. They waited two hours because the lady who had to sign the document arrived at 10 a.m. (Don't government employees start working at 8 a.m.?)

"We had no choice but to wait some more as she ordered two bottles of soft drink and took her time signing the documents. All this time, the other employees were just moving around, chatting and shuffling papers. Our document was finally released at 11 a.m. When we scanned the certificate, however, it was the wrong one."

Lydia Castillo asked, "How come taxpayers in Las Piñas get things done in less than one hour?"

To that, we can add that clerks at the San Juan real estate tax division and the Bureau of Internal Revenue work as fast. In addition, they are diligent at their jobs and are courteous to taxpayers.

No canvassing store prices

CANDY Bonoan Lagazon of Centro Montessori Loyola Heights wants to know from Handyman store supervisor Bobby Abrenio if it is against the law for customers to write down tag prices. (In our experience, Unimart does that, too.)

She sent us this letter: "My husband and I were canvassing prices of lighting fixture, fire alarm power-on-delay, emergency lights and other appliances we intended to buy for our elementary school… stopping last at Handyman in Ali Mall."

"While I was writing down prices and models, a salesman told me: *'Ma'm, bawal ho iyan,'* and said it was store policy. In the end, he said it was all right, but I was irritated that someone had the audacity to stop me from writing so I decided to go to the store manager." The store manager told her it was the standing policy in all Handyman stores.

Disgusted, the couple left and decided to shop at True Value and Ace Hardware.

Bad for tourism

JAYN@INFO.COM.PH wrote: "Removing the pushcart fees at the international airport is not good enough to improve the reputation of our airport. Officials should also remove those taxi bandits who openly prey on passengers. I was a victim (along with other passengers at the Centennial airport) who couldn't get a cab without a driver who demanded a flat rate of P300-P500 to Philam Village in Quezon City."

From RichardM@pinoy.com: "My passport application was denied three months ago, but I am writing this now to remind first-time applicants to check all the required signatures and documents.

"My passport was denied simply because my authenticated birth certificate lacked the signature of the National Statistics Office archivist. He should have affixed his signature at the back of the document in addition to the signature of the civil registrar. Imagine the hell I experienced that day. I stood in line at the Department of Foreign Affairs passport division since 5-11 a.m. only to be denied."

C. Yujuico wrote: "Please print the following letter disclosing the traumatic experience at the airport of our recent visitor, an information technology consultant from the Uchicago MBA program in Singapore. We hope airport officials do something so that it does not happen again to other tourists and potential investors."

Here is the letter: "It might be interesting to tell you my experience at the airport. The taxi driver brought me to the wrong terminal. At the airport, I asked the advice of a police and I was introduced to a taxi driver who made me pay P1,000 for a ride between the two terminals. Afterward, someone at the customs failed to stamp my passports as I went through the transfer counter. And so I had to ask airport officers to allow me to go through the Customs once more to go through the required procedure."

E-mail consumer complaints and comments to mgiron@csi.com.ph

When it comes to tomatoes, one name is known for a heritage of producing the best breeds. You guessed it, Heinz.

As early as 1936, Henry J. Heinz and his loyal army of tomato connoisseurs had taken on the painstaking process of bringing to reality one simple dream: the perfect tomato.

They studied, they tested.

They pooled together their minds and machines and for some reason, no matter how plump, juicy or the reddest of reds the tomatoes got, it was just never enough.

And so they studied some more, and tested some more.

And it just didn't end. Even up to this very day.

This my friend, is how Heinz had grown so popular and earned the respect and trust of moms all over the world. Soon enough the Heinz name had become an international icon in superior tomato-based products.

And that is how the art of tomato breeding began. How the world fell in love with Heinz and how this story (as you'll eventually see) gets better and better. Because it just does. That's how the process works.

Soon enough, parents everywhere trusted Heinz as the benchmark of nutrition and quality living.

Health is wealth, right?

Everybody in the United States clearly understood that whatever comes from Heinz, it's always of a better kind.

Indeed, mothers know best.

That same legendary quality also went for all the other Heinz products out in the supermarkets around the world. And we're talking gazillions of supermarkets out there.

And when you talk about Heinz, it's not just about tomato-based products like sauces and ketchup. (You actually thought they'd stop there?)

Baby food, tuna fish, potatoes, frozen entrees, baked beans, canned fruits & vegetables and soup. There's more: energy drinks, salad creams, and even as far as (believe it or not) soaps and cooking oil!

Just imagine what they could think of next.

And here in the Philippines, people are just beginning to discover that Heinz Tomato Ketchup is indeed thicker, richer and incredibly tastier than the leading brands they've tasted.

Like, oops, we're not allowed to mention any names in this ad.

Anyway, the bottomline is that Heinz makes every dish always a better experience.

So go ahead, grab a bottle and taste it to believe it.

Discover how Heinz is truly a breed apart.

HEINZ
TOMATO KETCHUP
57 VARIETIES
NET WT 300g

Nothing beats the goodness of Heinz.

Survey confirms Pinoys prefer going to the US

THE UNITED States is the most popular travel destination outside of Asia, Australia and New Zealand among consumers in the Asia/Pacific region, including those from the Philippines. This was revealed in MasterCard Int'l.'s Asian Ideals survey, a study on the values and attitudes of consumers in the region.

Asked which country or countries outside of Asia, Australia and New Zealand they would like to go to on holiday, 40 percent or four out of 10 respondents from across Asia/Pacific cited the US. Other popular destinations are Switzerland (26 percent), France (25 percent), United Kingdom (23 percent) and Canada (22 percent).

An overwhelming majority (77 percent) of the 405 Filipinos surveyed picked the US as their destination of choice. Other Pinoy preferences are Canada (48 percent), Italy (31 percent), Switzerland (28 percent), France (25 percent) and United Kingdom (21 percent).

When asked to choose from among the countries within Asia, Australia and New Zealand, 19 percent or nearly one out of five Filipino respondents expressed preference for spending their vacation in their own country. This sense of nationalism was also strong among the respondents from India (17 percent) and Malaysia (15 percent).

A total of 5,469 respondents were surveyed for the Asian Ideals study. Other countries included in the survey were Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

The Filipinos' top five holiday destinations among countries in the region—Australia (60 percent), Hong Kong (46 percent), Japan (43 percent), New Zealand (34 percent) and Singapore (26 percent)—reflected the region-wide preference. Australia got the nod of 52 percent of the total 5,469 respondents. The second most popular was New Zealand (31 percent) while Japan (27 percent) was third on the list.

The Asian Ideals survey also revealed that over half (60 percent) will spend less than $1,000 per family member on their annual holiday/vacation. The expenditure includes airfare, hotel accommodations, meals, sightseeing and shopping.

Region-wide, 23 percent are willing to spend between $1,000-3,000 and five percent more than $3,000. The survey revealed that 11 percent do not go on annual vacations with their family.

Filipinos seem to be the most budget-conscious with (28 percent) saying they do not go on an annual vacation with their family.

MasterCard is the only payments company in the world to conduct regular consumer surveys. It has the most comprehensive portfolio of payment brands in the world with more than 20,000 member financial institutions serving consumers and businesses in 210 countries and territories. More than 1.7 billion MasterCard, Cirrus and Maestro logos are present on credit, charge and debit cards in circulation today.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

J	A	V	A	■	L	I	S	A	■	Y	O	D	A	■	■	C	H	U	M	P
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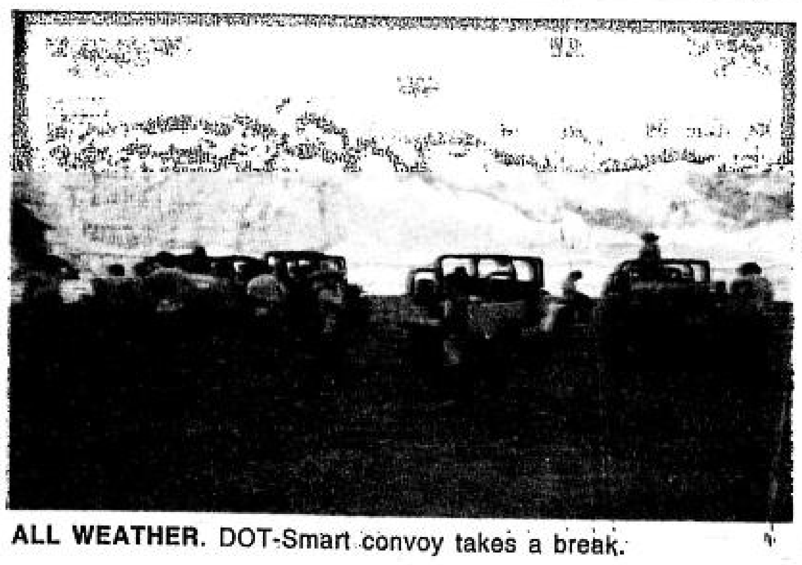


ALL WEATHER. DOT-Smart convoy takes a break.

HELPING HAND. A hiker slips along the rocky slope.

ALMOST THERE. A hiker drags his bag after a long, blistering walk.

Beyond the valley of lahar

(From page F1)

There before our eyes was a wide, wide jewel of blue and green, the lake of the caldera, one you could only see in picture books, one you behold only once in your lifetime, so beautiful

Toward noon that day, we did not think we could ever return to Manila, as the world turned totally dark with rain and ash fall, and the earliest onrushes of lahar came. With bated breath we waited to be petrified to stone. That climactic eruption lasted about nine hours, collapsing the mountain's summit and producing a caldera 2.5-km wide.

In the following years, we covered the heart-rending exodus of people affected by lahar and their resettlement in various provinces. Now, 10 years later, we return to find Pinatubo literally a picnic.

Expect the savvy Filipinos to find ways and means to turn adversity into triumph. Not only have they found out they could make figurines, vases and numerous bric-a-brac with Pinatubo ash, but they've also discovered several accesses to the caldera and are now marketing treks to the mountain to tourists.

High adventure

The regional office of the Department of Tourism gives away a brochure with this friendly travel advisory: "Local tour operators offer diverse tour packages ranging from low-impact travel along the sunken landmarks in Bacolor and Porac in Pampanga, to the lunar landscape in Sapangbato, Angeles City, and the Mt. Pinatubo lake in San Marcelino, Zambales, to the high-impact trekking adventure to the crater of Mt. Pinatubo via Barangay Sta. Juliana in Capas, Tarlac."

Needless to say, we chose to experience the high adventure. Last week, we joined the Smart-DOT media climb to Mt. Pinatubo—although we couldn't see the connection. (We were sure no enterprising Filipino would ever dare build a cell site on Pinatubo for obvious reasons. Also, the soil in those parts is rich in sulfuric acid so that any metal cable or post is sure to be corroded in time.)

Continues the brochure: "The trail to the crater of Mt. Pinatubo follows the Crow Valley gunnery range along the O'Donnell streambed in Capas, Tarlac, a flat long valley that leads right up to the crater. The trek is a 1-hour drive on board an all-weather jeep plus a 3-4-hour hike to the top of the volcano."

That should have served as a warning, but we were heedless. During an overly sumptuous dinner of Tarlaqueño cuisine at Coconut Grill on McArthur Highway, hosted by the Tarlac Chamber of Commerce and Industry, tourism regional director Ronaldo Tiotuico detailed the travails of trekkers, but that only prodded us to go.

Fragile zones

After an overnight stay in Tarlac City, courtesy of Sun Garden Hotel, we started very early in the morning while it was still dark, as some had to go to the market to buy the prescribed sandals for the arduous hike. (One of our four guide-porters, Conrado, had been using his pair of Spartan slippers on those trails for years. Your Niké won't do.)

Our convoy of four vehicles traversed a valley of sand and stones surrounded on all sides by lahar sediment that had been temporarily concretized into peaks and plateaus. This was all desert. What was once the O'Donnell River teeming with fish and aquatic plants had been reduced into numerous rivulets on a bed of rocks, stones, pebbles and sand.

When the valley narrowed into canyons, then into gorges and ravines, until it was impassable to a 4x4 vehicle, the hike began. Because of the heat, we were strongly tempted to walk under the shadows of those peaks, but Conrado advised us to stay away from them. Those were fragile zones, and at any time the soil could erode and those mountains of rocks and sand could fall on your head.

Everything that had been said about the trek was true. We can't begin to describe the physical strains here—the blistering of the feet, the tightening of the veins, the searing of the skin, the swelling of the lungs, the cramps, the headaches, the gas pains—but we can now speculate on what a candle must feel as it melts from its own flame. We didn't exactly melt under the sun, but we could have collapsed, if we weren't made of sterner stuff.

Fantastic vision

As we made the final steps in the ascent, we staggered, literally, and reeled. There before our eyes was a wide, wide jewel of blue and green, the lake of the caldera, one you could only see in picture books, one you behold only once in your lifetime, so beautiful.

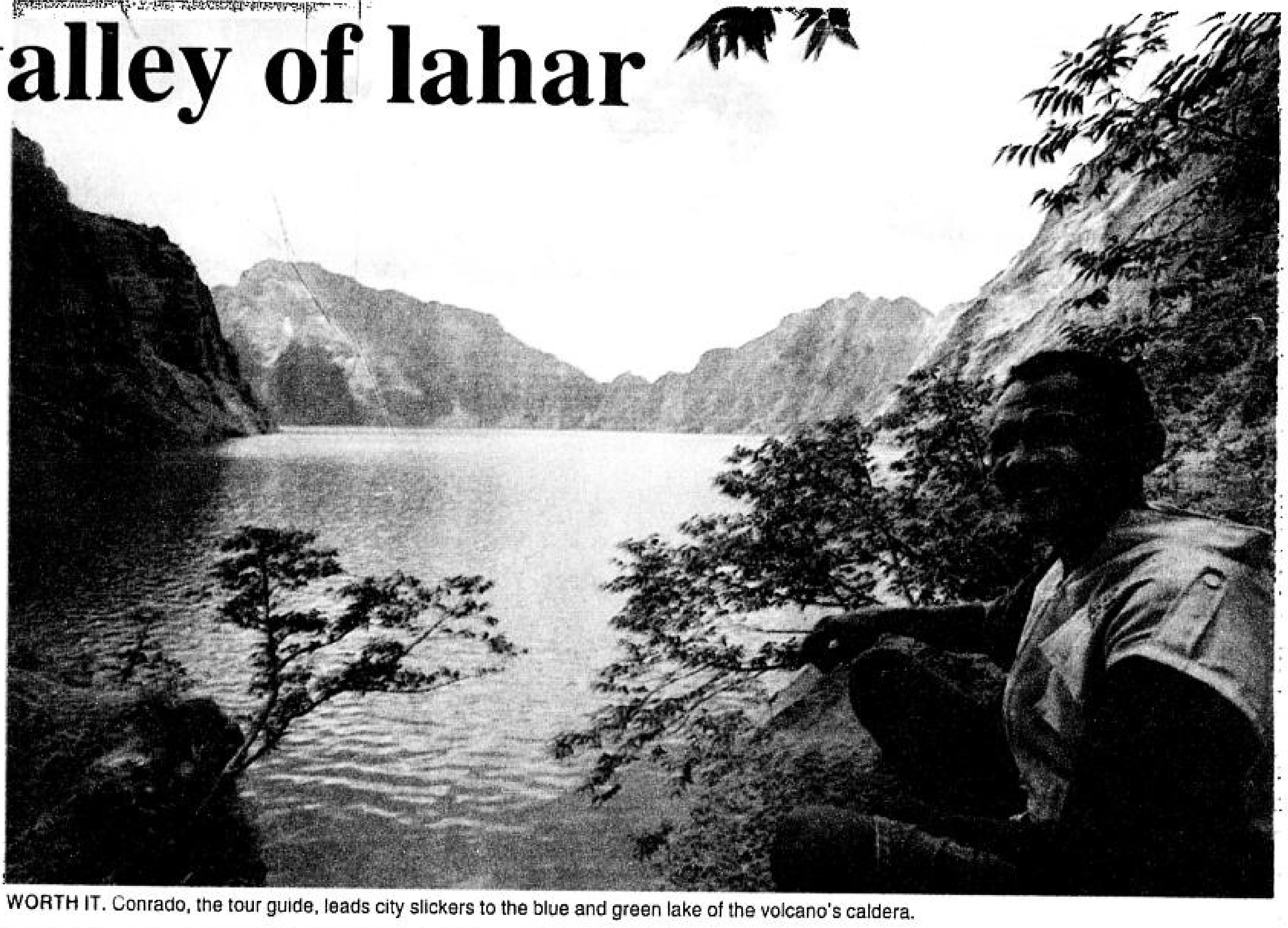
The excited trekkers could barely find words for this fantabulous sight. How could they tell their loved ones back home what they had just seen? They felt so cut off from the rest of the world, physically and psychologically.

The Smart people passed around an Ericsson R190 dual-mode handphone—marketed as the world's lightest and smallest satellite mobile phone—and we blabbered away to those who were deprived of this vision. (Now we saw the connection.)

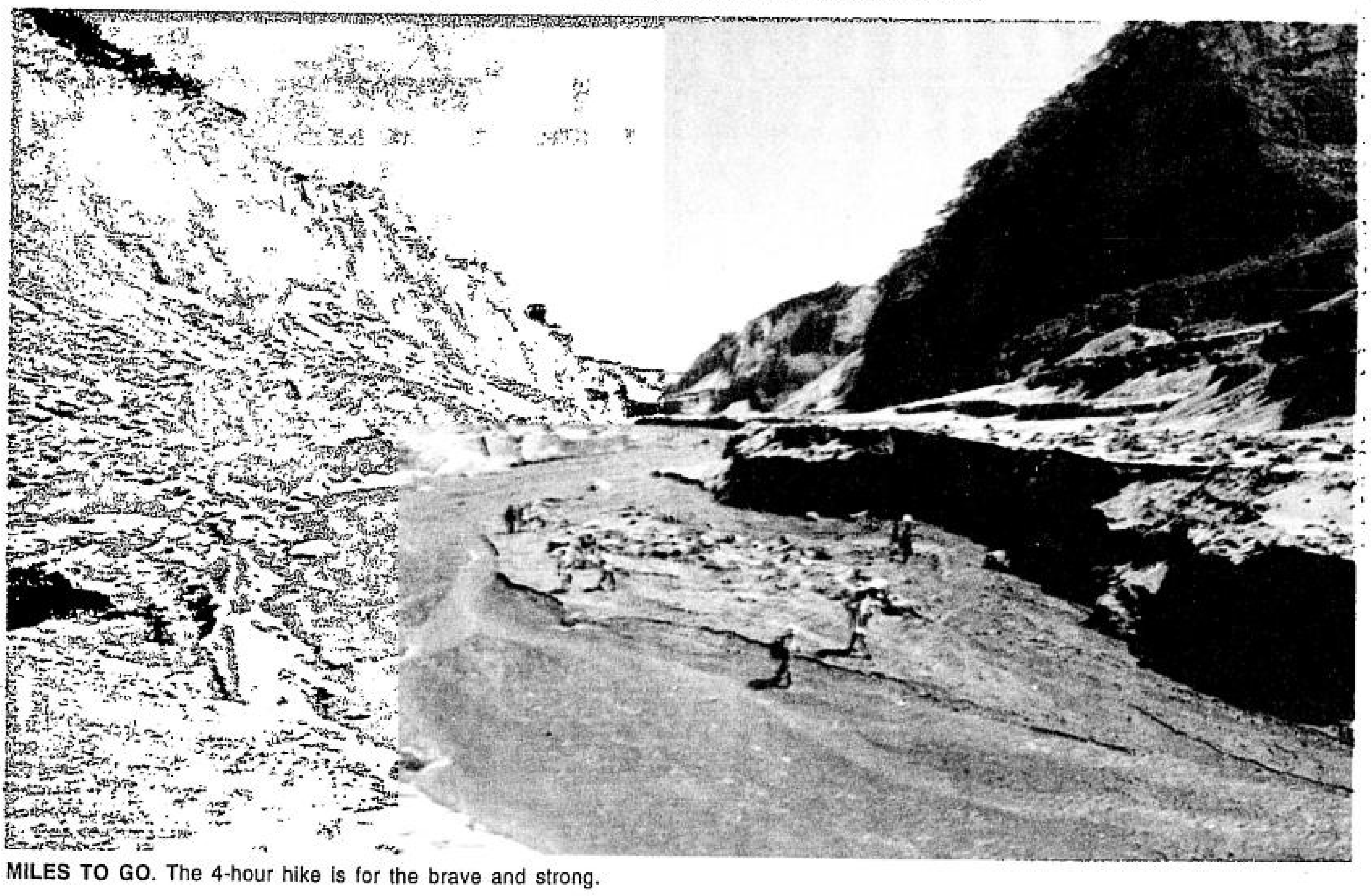
A lot of picture-taking followed. We had a little picnic of sandwiches and fruits. Some couldn't resist dipping into the warm healing waters of the lake.

As a reward for our travails, our hosts drove us to Clark and housed us in two villas at the Fontana Leisure Parks. With the Pinatubo tragedy receding into the dim reaches of our memory, we lived the good life that night quaffing beer, sipping coffee and fruit juice, playing cards, feasting on Norwegian salmon steak, Hungarian goulash, spicy chicken, shrimp rice.

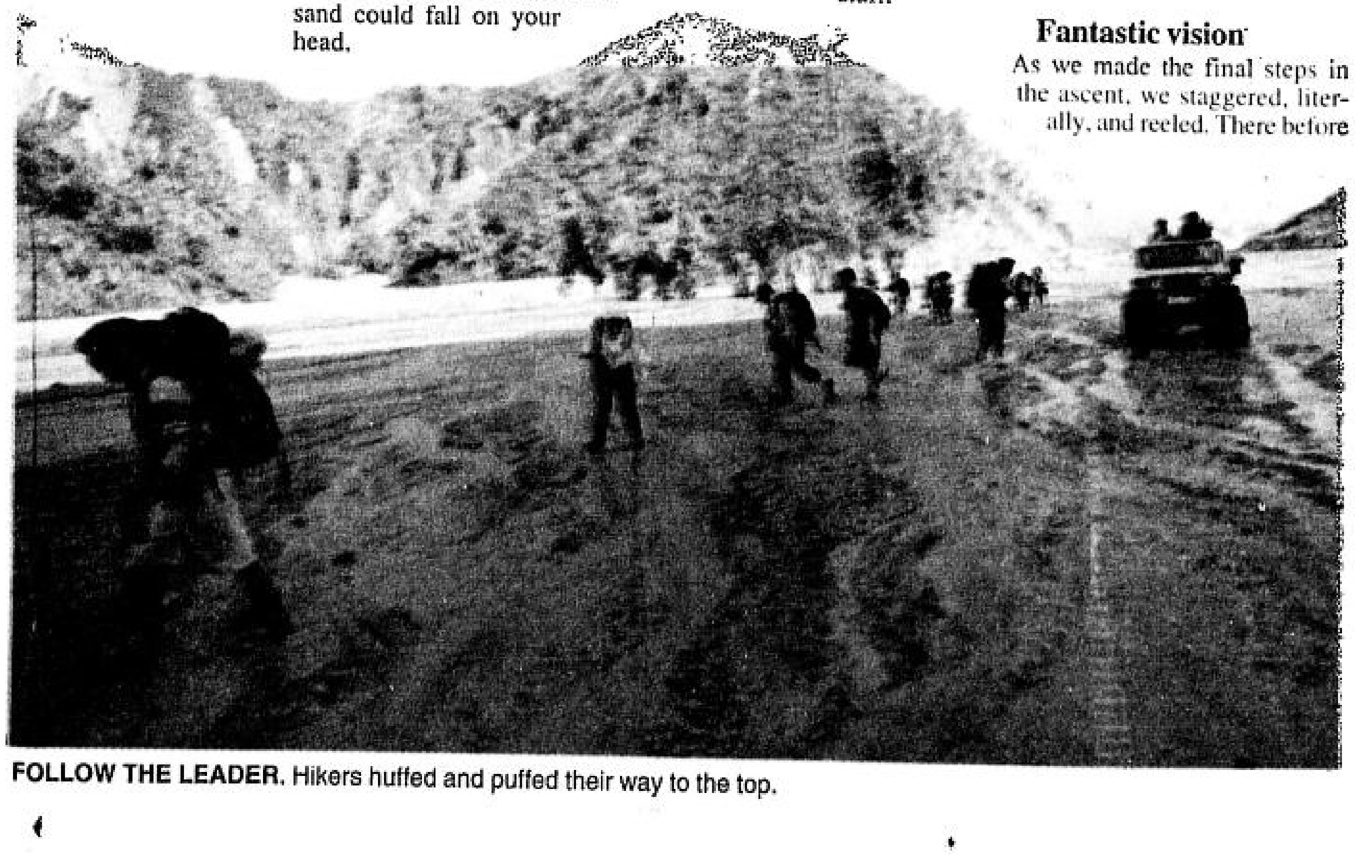
Toward morning, we flung our tired body on our fluffy bed, and we slept the sleep of the just, with our cell phone by our side.



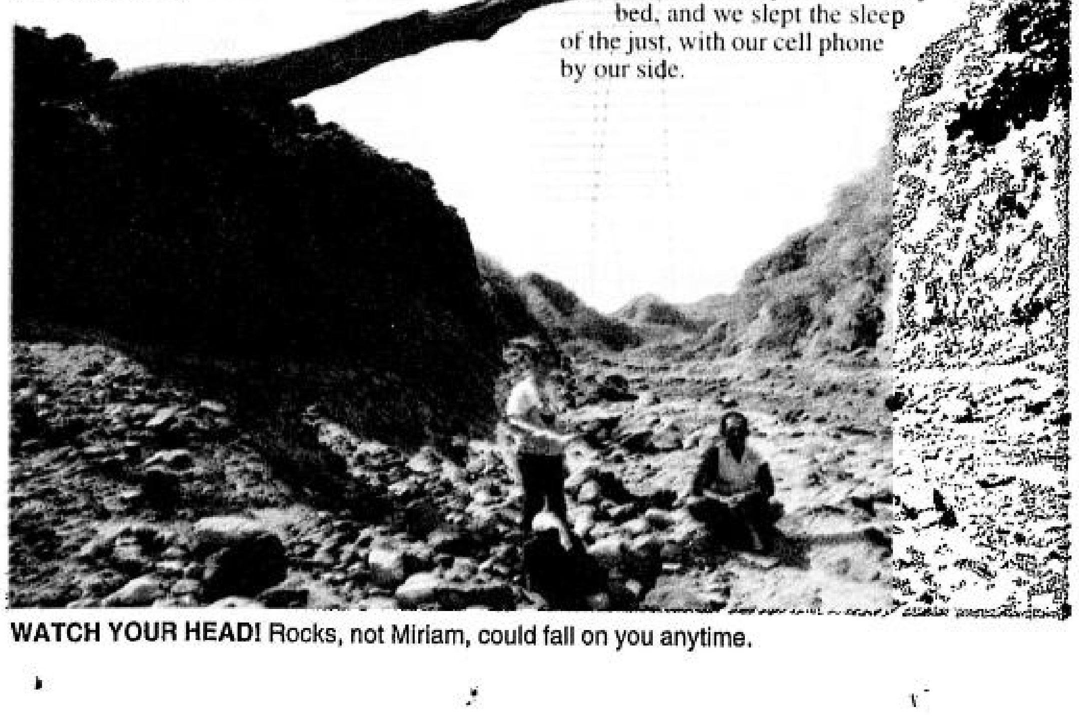
WORTH IT. Conrado, the tour guide, leads city slickers to the blue and green lake of the volcano's caldera.



MILES TO GO. The 4-hour hike is for the brave and strong.



FOLLOW THE LEADER. Hikers huffed and puffed their way to the top.



WATCH YOUR HEAD! Rocks, not Miriam, could fall on you anytime.

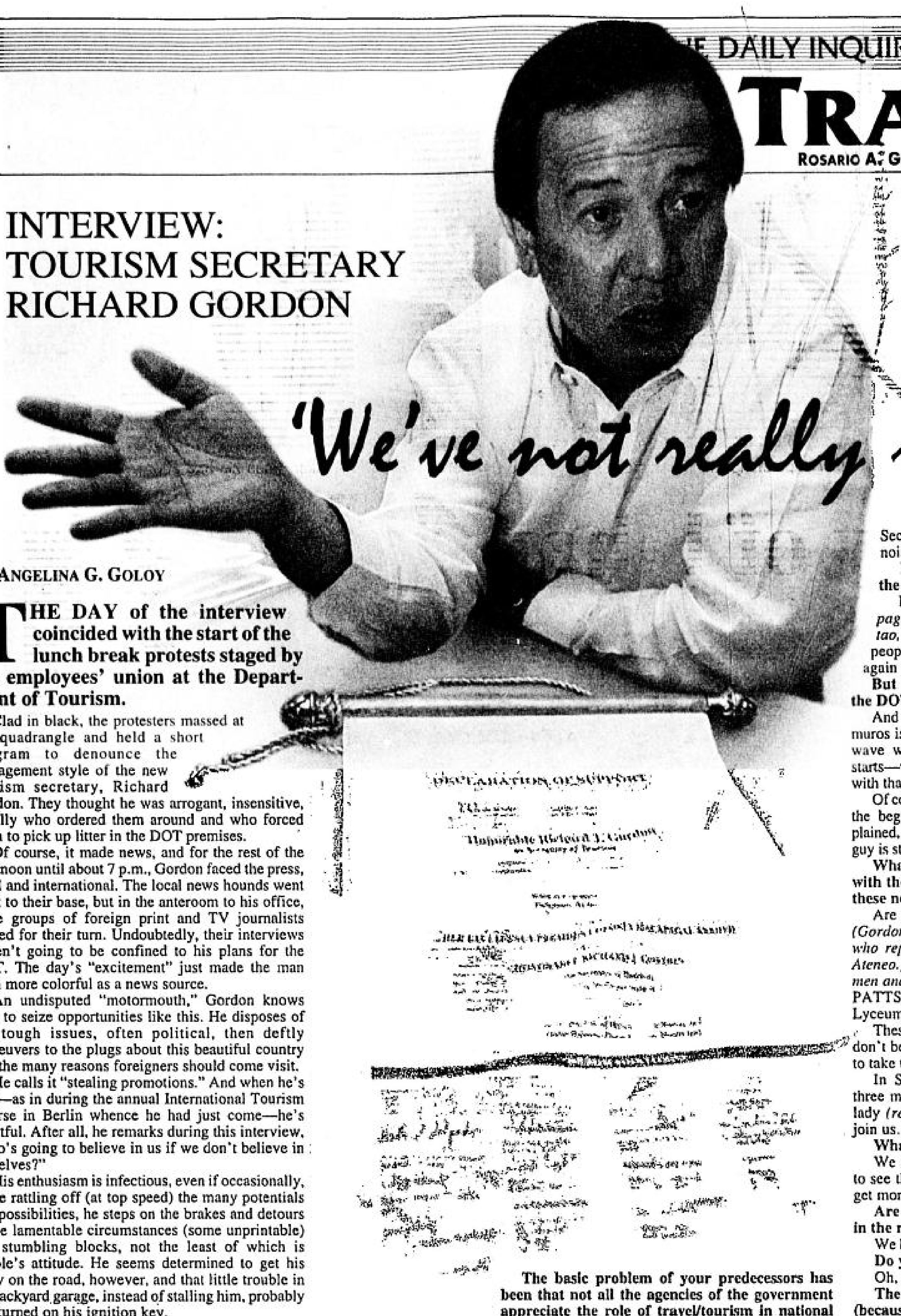
TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, Editor

INTERVIEW: TOURISM SECRETARY RICHARD GORDON

The man is hoping for continuous support because he's just getting into the swing of things. But he means to bring about certain changes—like at the airport

'We've not really swung our bat yet'



BY ANGELINA G. GOLOY

THE DAY of the interview coincided with the start of the lunch break protests staged by the employees' union at the Department of Tourism.

Clad in black, the protesters massed at the quadrangle and held a short program to denounce the management style of the new tourism secretary, Richard Gordon. They thought he was arrogant, insensitive, a bully who ordered them around and who forced them to pick up litter in the DOT premises.

Of course, it made news, and for the rest of the afternoon until about 7 p.m., Gordon faced the press, local and international. The local news hounds went back to their base, but in the anteroom to his office, three groups of foreign print and TV journalists waited for their turn. Undoubtedly, their interviews weren't going to be confined to his plans for the DOT. The day's "excitement" just made the man even more colorful as a news source.

An undisputed "motormouth," Gordon knows how to seize opportunities like this. He disposes of the tough issues, often political, then deftly maneuvers to the plugs about this beautiful country and the many reasons foreigners should come visit.

He calls it "stealing promotions." And when he's at it—as in during the annual International Tourism Bourse in Berlin whence he had just come—he's boastful. After all, he remarks during this interview, "who's going to believe in us if we don't believe in ourselves?"

His enthusiasm is infectious, even if occasionally, while rattling off (at top speed) the many potentials and possibilities, he steps on the brakes and detours to the lamentable circumstances (some unprintable) and stumbling blocks, not the least of which is people's attitude. He seems determined to get his show on the road, however, and that little trouble in his backyard garage, instead of stalling him, probably just turned on his ignition key.

At this writing, the protesters are still around. (The word in the tourism beat is that the boss holds office anywhere but at the DOT.) But so are Gordon's youth volunteers—college graduates who are taking "people power" to a higher plane, putting aside career plans (as well as lucrative job opportunities) to work as his staff for free and perhaps make a difference in public service. Shades of Subic, where he once chaired the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority?

Excerpts from the interview:

The travel/tourism industry seems optimistic about your appointment. They think things will start moving. You've been called a "doer..."

Have you seen this? *(Gordon shows a scroll laid out on his desk)* It's a declaration of support...from the airline associations to the restaurant people. They're all expressing their support, and they say it's unprecedented, that they've not done this before. I don't know if they're just pulling my leg. They even thanked President Gloria (Macapagal-Arroyo) for "an inspired choice." I am awed by it all, I'm not Superman...

GORDON in his office, which, he says, he is ready to leave any time

RANDY HORMILLOSA

The basic problem of your predecessors has been that not all the agencies of the government appreciate the role of travel/tourism in national economic development, so this department does not get the support it needs. Does Ms Macapagal appreciate this?

I think she does. When she asked me to take over, I was ready to say no. I'm not going to do it if I wasn't going to get support...There's a police problem, a garbage problem—these are not under my control—the airport problem, traffic, health...I'm just a promoter of tourism, a developer...

Then when I saw her again, she said she was going to make the tourism department a senior department and my post, a senior Cabinet position. That means all the other Cabinet officials were ready to support me.

Does she articulate this to the other departments?

Oh, yes, yes. In fact, I have the cooperation of the MMDA (Metro Manila Development Authority). Baclaran, for example. We've cleared it (of vendors). It's still temporary, it'll take awhile to transfer them, the stalls are not ready. But the traffic is now flowing. We also cleaned up the airport area. The DPWH (Department of Public Works and Highways) has been very helpful. I asked them to speed up the widening of the highway to the Domestic Road. The Metro aides are also helping us...

So you think you're going to get good enough support, so far.

Well, I hope I'm going to get continuous support, because we've not really swung our bat yet, this is just the beginning. We need to change certain things, (like) the way the airport is managed. We want fewer guards, with guns. We want the (toilet flushes) to be replaced with electronic ones. The immigration people are OK, but we don't want any of the illegal activities anymore. We want to make sure that the baggage is out, that the passengers are out, within 15 minutes. Processing should not take long. So we'll require right away the cooperation of customs, the airport police, security, the airport management.

Then we'll require the cooperation of the DPWH in creating an overhead road leading out of the airport in 2002.

Another major constraint is the budget. If it weren't a problem, if you had the kind of money you would need, what would you do first?

Let me just tell you how much other people have by way of budget. Hong Kong, a small city, has $66 million in advertising budget. Thailand has $39 million for promotions. The Philippines? $660,000. The other thing is, we have to ask the hotels to go from dollar-based to peso-based (room rates), so it would be cheaper (for foreign visitors).

Industry leaders have presented a "unified" plan of action. Offhand, how much of that plan do you think can be turned into action?

Well, I think it's gonna happen. The fact that we were successful in getting them to get together, unite... We'll have a monthly meeting, so that we all know where we're headed. We can share the vision, also new values, the struggle, and hopefully, the triumphs...

How much of it can be done? You'll be surprised. We didn't have any money in Subic. But on our third year, we were independent of Manila, and on our fourth year, we were building our own air field. Two or three investments would come, we'd have 60,000 jobs. Then the Apec (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation)...How did that happen? When people see that the government is serious and the priorities are set, people come to give their support.

Your trademark approach is to develop a sense of community. How do you translate what you've done in Subic to the department—in spite of (the employees' protest action)?

I think that was deliberate, I think somebody's manipulating (the employees' union), I can't believe this happened...

Did it happen to your predecessors, too?

It did. It happened with (former Tourism Secretary) Gemma (Cruz-Araneta). There were noise barrages.

Did you say you were ready to throw in the towel?

No, I never said that. I said, *ayoko nang pagsilbihan ang bayan natin, kung ang mga tao, eh* (I don't want to serve the country if the people) don't want me around...I can always start again elsewhere. I can go back to Olongapo...

But the country is waiting to see you do with the DOT what you did in Subic...

And I'm doing that, and I'm succeeding. Intramuros is cleaner now. People there see me, and they wave when they clean the streets. That's how it starts—with cleanliness. Then peace and order. Along with that, the vendors—they'll soon have uniforms.

Of course, in Olongapo, we had similar problems in the beginning. Some government employees complained, some filed charges with the Ombudsman. One guy is still filing charges against me up to now.

What about in the education sector? Isn't it with the young people that we can start instilling these new attitudes?

Are you a volunteer? Where did you graduate? *(Gordon addresses a young female staff member, who replies, yes, and that she graduated from the Ateneo.)* Can you call the others? *(Eight other young men and women enter the office.)* They're involved. PATTS (College of Aeronautics) got involved. Lyceum got involved, Mapua...

These are kids, and they're coming in. People don't believe they're volunteers. Eventually I'd like to take them in.

In Subic, we had people who volunteered for three months, six months, without pay. This young lady *(referring to a DOT volunteer)* left her job to join us...Young people want to change the country.

What about in grade school, high school?

We are going to get them involved. I want them to see the value of tourism. (For starters), I want to get more young people to see Corregidor.

Are you going to do this outside Metro Manila, in the regional offices?

We have volunteers in Davao, Dumaguete, Iligan.

Do your volunteers give suggestions?

Oh, yes...Sometimes they also get hollered at.

The regular employees probably feel threatened (because the volunteers have access to you)...

AT THE International Tourism Bourse in Berlin, with Mayor Eberhard Diepgen and Filipino dancer

They call these volunteers *hacienderos. (One girl interjects: "If we were hacienderos, we'd have brought our maids to pick up the garbage.")* Someone was shocked on her first day to see Gordon picking up litter, and people were just watching. So I called them—people at the LTO (Land Transportation Office), the barangay. I even walked over to the street toughies at the corner, did a high-five with them, and told them, *"Pare, tulungan nyo ako* (Buddy, give me a hand)." They did.

And I'm *"malakas ang dating* (I come on too strong)?" Maybe that's one of the things people don't understand: Life's not going to come to you, you've got to get it, you have to make it.

Did you have any inkling something like (these protests) would happen?

No. I was shocked—that they're so petty. In their case, I think it was "culture shock." They don't seem to realize, here I am working, giving interviews—Travel Watch, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Washington Times, just now, the Japanese press. They wait two, three hours...

My God, I get mad because I don't want to do interviews, I want to conceptualize. At the back of my head, I'm worrying about what's happening in Intramuros, about the designs I asked Pitoy Moreno to do. He's a volunteer, by the way, doing the design for the uniforms...

The private sector is 100-percent supportive of Dick Gordon, but these (protesters) are destroying it...And all because I asked someone to pick up a cigarette butt—which is really our duty, not as government people, but as citizens.

It's the victim culture: They complain, they appeal to the media, crying oppression. I don't know, but was going to Cabanatuan to help retrieve corpses (of earthquake victims) oppressive? Or going to Pinatubo to help carry Aetas being evacuated during the volcanic eruption? Did they do that? Then tomorrow, the media will wake me up to ask me to comment on my being oppressive: *"Dick-tador" daw kayo? May Gordon sanitaire daw kayo?"* It's a play on Dick Gordon. It's ridiculous!

What was the first thing that came to mind when you learned that you would be appointed?

I said no. I had just made a promise, I didn't want to be appointed again. It hurt too much. I had to be convinced by my friends. People started calling me, my brods called me. Danny Gozo called me and said, "The President has asked me to call you, she wants you to be the tourism secretary." Why? I asked. I mean, if I were to be appointed anywhere, the general thinking was, it was natural that I would go to Subic. I'm not ambitious, I'm OK just putting Subic back in order. But then again, I'd rather not...

Let me think about it, I said. I don't want to be appointed anymore. It really hurt us, my family, up to now because the volunteers are still there. *(He mentions detractors suggesting that he stage-managed a barricade purportedly to draw sympathy so he'd be given Subic to appease him because he's not likely to be confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.)* Can you imagine that? And yet nobody ever mentioned...while I was in Berlin, working my whole being off...that these guys (volunteers) were on strike because they were told to leave or they were now on job-order (arrangement).

It's like the Great Depression in America...Nobody even bothered to listen. A journalist who interviewed me said she saw I was nearly in tears when I was talking about these adjustments. I told her, you see, we were taught to care.

You mentioned the CA. So what happens if you're not confirmed?

I've thought about that. That's why I have this. *(He points to three black suitcases behind him, as one youth volunteer, says, "We're ready to leave.")* I own that, I own that *(points to items in the room).*

When my friends came here, they put this up, and I'm going to pay for the wallpaper. They decided to change my table because it takes too long for the government to do it. We shampooed the carpet, we replaced missing tiles here and there. I was embarrassed when the New Zealand ambassador, the Singaporean ambassador, the foreign ministers visited. So I told everybody, we have to clean up...

The toilets—if you'll notice, there's toilet paper. Did you know that people used to filch toilet paper here?

Does it make you wish there'd come a time we'd stop saying, "Ang Pinoy talaga..."?

I refuse to say that. If we Filipinos cannot even behave insofar as toilet paper is concerned, we should be ashamed. *(Once, he recalls, during a flag ceremony, he called the attention of the security guard and told him to start over when the ropes got entangled, obviously because the flag was not properly folded.)* Every time I pin down someone, they sweat. They think, I'm a perfectionist, I'm a threat—because I ask questions, and they don't have the answers, even to some basic ones.

Who's going to believe in us if we don't believe in ourselves? The problem is not really peace and order. The problem is not even this *(he rifles through tourist magazines and brochures on his desk).* These can all be made, we can all raise money for these.

And I have. We stopped the boardwalk, which is 49 percent overrun. I said, the solution is a joint venture, find a partner who'll finish it. Then you have extra money for other things.

PR money? Look for a $3,000-a-month guy in Berlin where there are 15 million tourists, and make sure the good news (about the Philippines) comes out in the papers there—instead of lobbying for millions of pesos.

There's the Post Office. A hotel in Singapore, the Fullerton, is interested. It's a nice hotel, I saw it in Singapore, an old Post Office, exactly like that, only slightly smaller than ours. Our post office system can be privatized. Can you imagine, Liwasang Bonifacio will come alive? I suggested building a tunnel leading to the Metropolitan Theater. Put the privatized Post Office there, open some shops... Even the Pasig River will be revived...

We have the natural attractions, we just don't use them wisely.

You know what we need? A PR book—with package tours, information on how much a tourist would need, how to get to a destination... I got Northwest Airlines to put us on the cover, they have a video on the Philippines in their in-flight movies...

But wait, we haven't even discussed PAL (Philippine Airlines) yet. That's another problem...

The important thing is the President knows how tourism can be tapped...

Exactly.

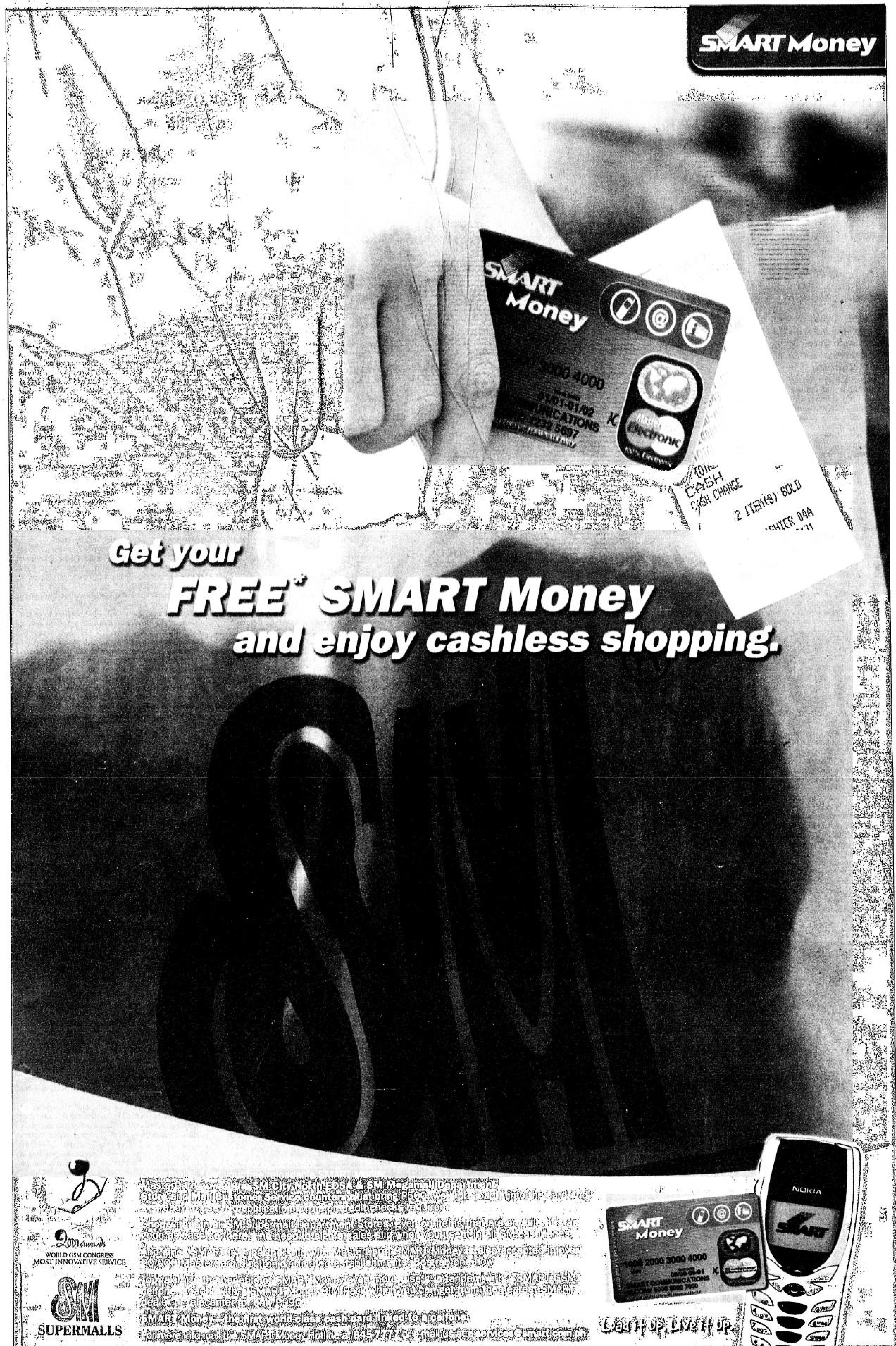
WITH VOLUNTEERS (from left) Med Medina, Girlie Bernal, Celine Jalandoni, Carissa Coscolluela, Che Baldomero, Angela Poblador, Miguel Naguiat, lawyer Rio Inocencio and Pinky Jalata

BATANGAS' PRIDE

It'll be like being back in the old hometown when the Sining Kumintang ng Batangas performs during the closing ceremonies of the Pistahan @ Expo on May 6. The group, formally organized in 1992 and composed of Bauan High School alumni, has performed in international festivals in Japan, Israel, Italy, France and the United States. The Pistahan, a tourism and trade fair of the Southern Tagalog region, is ongoing at the Expo Trade Hall of the Festival Supermall in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

TURNING THREE

The Seven Suites Hotel-Observatory in Antipolo City celebrates its third year with special anniversary rates until May 16. It has also launched its new roof deck restaurant, Bistro Amore, which offers fine dining and a romantic atmosphere plus "Sax Therapy," a live jazz symphony by guest saxophone players. For reservations, call 677-5402 to 03 or 240-5093.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NIIT
Learn how the world is doing IT

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor SPROJECTS@INQUIRER.COM.PH MYLENE DE JESUS, Account Manager

Revolutionary IT education finally in the country

NIIT, a world-recognized institution in IT Learning opens its doors to Filipinos

BY RAQUEL GOMEZ

TO FILIPINOS dead serious on getting a genuine IT education that will equip them with the knowledge and skills to land a career in the emerging eBusiness, here's some good news.

NIIT, a world-recognized institution on IT Learning has started operations in the country with the opening of five schools.

NIIT is the world's most prolific training ground for IT professionals and one of the world's leading provider of software solutions for eBusiness.

JAY SILAYAN

Bartolome "Jay" Silayan, the managing director of NIIT Philippine licensee Mind Stream Inc., says NIIT's strength is its synergy between IT education and software development.

"NIIT, which is also involved in software development, offers high-end courses focused on Internet technologies. It offers a curriculum that is cutting edge and the latest in terms of technology."

In a nutshell, NIIT is analogous to a medical school and a hospital in IT learning. Students learn from real-life experiences through its software consulting engagements.

"That's the big difference between NIIT and all the other schools," says Silayan.

"NIIT is a giant software developer, the 4th biggest software exporter in India. And because of that business, NIIT shares all the knowledge, experience and expertise in IT with its education and training centers."

NIIT was founded in 1981 in India by Rajendra S. Pawar, Vijay Thadani and P. Rajendran. It pioneered IT education and training in India in 1982.

Over the years, it has become the training ground for people with diverse requirements—from students seeking careers in computers to IT professionals needing advanced training, from business managers seeking a competitive edge to housewives wanting to

REVOLUTIONARY/ G2

"I can't believe
that the school
I've been eyeing abroad
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The doors of NIIT finally open in the Philippines. NIIT is the largest global IT education institution for information technology with over 1 million graduates from 2,000 centers in 35 countries worldwide. With its expertise in developing software solutions for renowned global IT companies, NIIT offers the freshest e-technology curriculum in a learning climate closest to the real-world environment. Its program of studies is designed to prepare students for the best e-commerce jobs anywhere in the world. Last year alone, NIIT's global placement network placed more than 16,000 graduates in global companies, including Fortune 500 companies. Set your sights on NIIT. It will open doors for you.

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NIIT is one of the first 12 organizations worldwide to receive the SEI-CMM Level 5 Certificate • Has training alliances with Microsoft, Oracle, Red Hat and Computer Associates • Global clients include IBM, World Bank, British Airways and Sun Microsystems • Has academic alliances with international universities in the UK, US, Australia, Malaysia and the Philippines • Awarded the "Best Training Company" by Computer World Magazine • Microsoft's Best Training Partner in Asia

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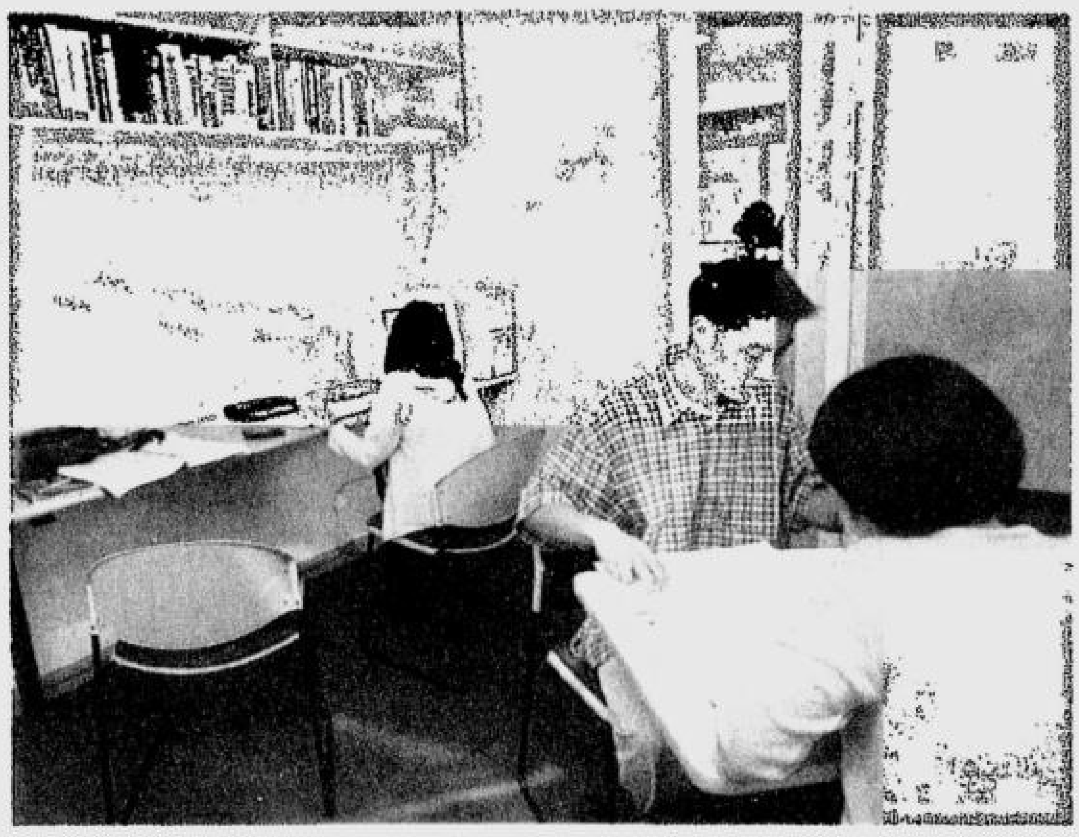
NIIT Education Trust Administering Academic Alliances

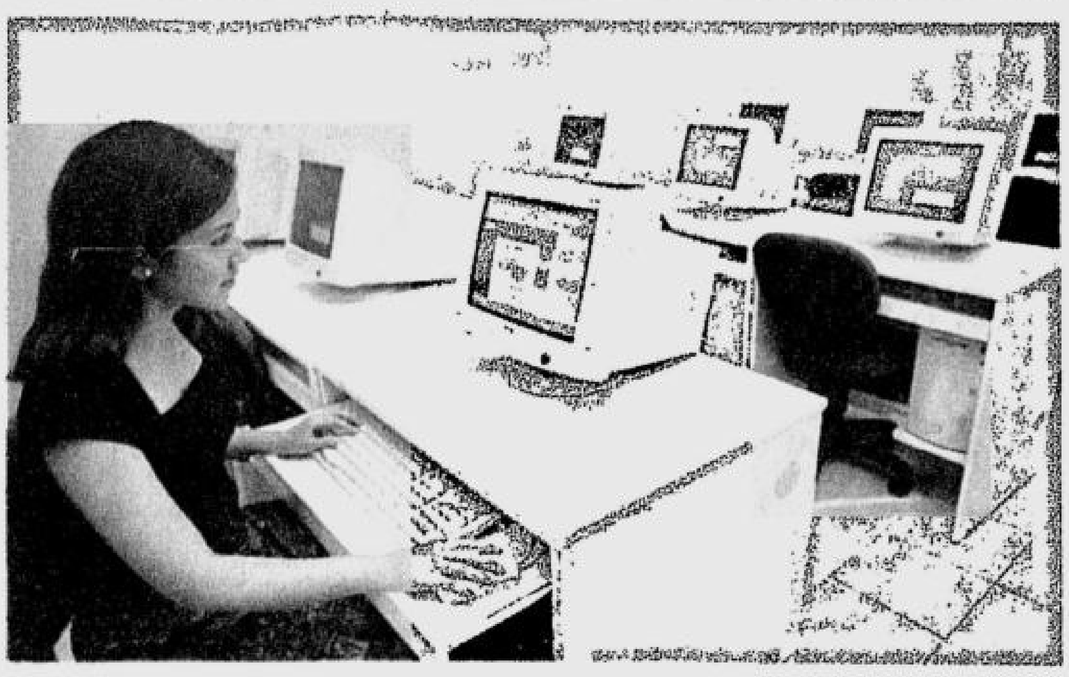
Microsoft Premier Education and Training Partner
Global Industry Partner

NIIT's education materials are developed using ISO 9001 certified processes.

ePLDT
PLDT
Industry Partners



"NIIT is a giant software developer, the 4th biggest software exporter in India. And because of that business, NIIT shares all the knowledge, experience and expertise in IT with its education and training centers."



Revolutionary IT . . .

(From page G1)

become computer literate.

NIIT operates in over 30 countries, which includes the United States, Japan, France, Germany, Singapore, and Malaysia. It has over 2,000 branches worldwide.

Last year, NIIT was able to place more than 16,000 graduates through their global placement network. Many of them are hired by top companies such as Ford Motors, Merril Lynch, HP, Sun Microsystems, Alcatel and Citibank.

NIIT has partnered with Mind Stream Inc. in the Philippines. Mind Stream Inc. was founded by entrepreneurs led by Jay Silayan whose major partners include ePLDT, Project Quest Corp and investment banker Benedict Perez.

Mind Stream's board members are Francisco Dizon (chair); Ray Espinosa (vice-chair); Jay Silayan (president); Ariel Roda, Augusto Gonzales, Al Panlilio (directors); and Manuel Gonzalez (corporate secretary).

NIIT opened four of its five schools in Makati, Manila, Alabang, and Quezon City in March. Its fifth school, Ortigas, will be ready by early May.

It was Silayan's idea to bring the premier IT institution here to fill a "big gap" in IT education in the country.

"I just felt that we needed something more—that we should offer the latest in IT education. So we partnered with one of the best IT institutions in the world. The partnership with NIIT includes transfer of technology. We have full time foreign technical consultants who are here to make sure that we give the students the same quality education given worldwide."

NIIT's eTechnology curriculum's goal is to produce software developers. It provides certificate programs that will train students to become web programmers, object-oriented application programmers, and application designers and developers in e-technology.

NIIT students go through a learning process based on a software factory model and best practices from the industry including product standards, quality assurance standards, documentation standards, and performance standards.

At NIIT, students learn by analyzing case studies drawn from industry settings which familiarize the students with typical organizational functions by serving as a backdrop for problem discussions.

Students go through real life tasks and problem-based learning guided by acknowledged experts in the business. NIIT students learn from experience gained by the institution while working on software projects.

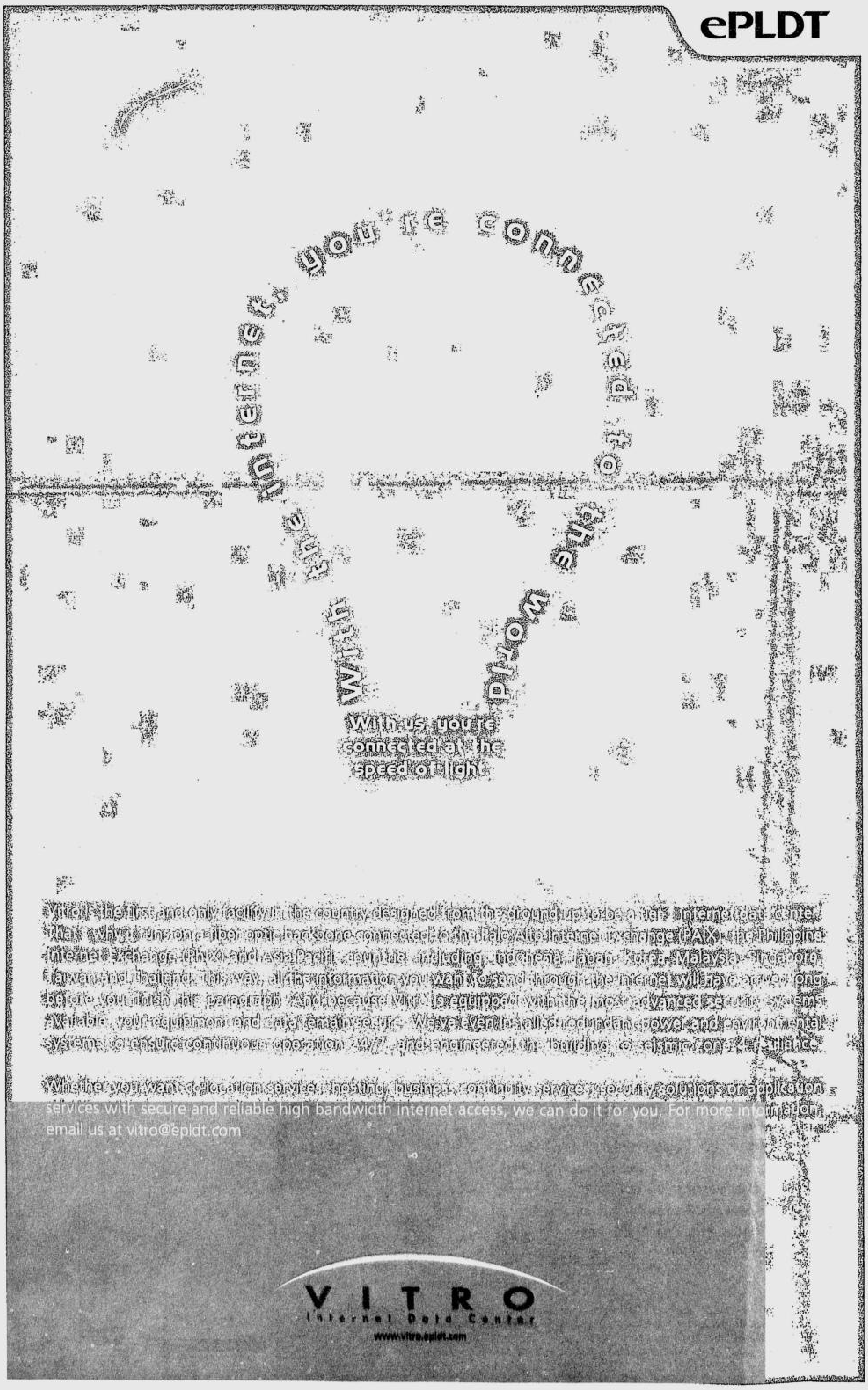
"Basically the focus of the NIIT curriculum is on software engineering and Internet technologies. We also wanted to build a good work attitude, teamwork and good skills in written and verbal communication among the students."

To ensure quality education, NIIT faculty goes through intensive training with foreign trainors. The lesson plans and instructional materials are prepared by experts abroad. The experts are composed of hundreds of academicians, technology experts, and software engineers.

Silayan says NIIT will also help their career program students land jobs in the future. Currently, the demand for IT professionals is still big and will continue to grow. He says in the United States, the demand has softened but there still isn't enough.

Locally, Silayan says, more companies are fast getiing into eBusiness. It is hoped that the availability of high level IT skills will attract more foreign software companies to set up shop here and/or outsource work in the Philippines.

"If there's another country that can be a leader in information technology, it is our country. With NIIT, we could become another IT powerhouse. I've seen IT talent in the Philippines and we could do it."



ePLDT

With the internet, you're connected to the world
With us, you're connected at the speed of light

Vitro is the first and only facility in the country designed from the ground up to be a tier [illegible] Internet data center. That's why it runs on a fiber optic backbone connected to the Palo Alto Internet Exchange (PAIX), the Philippine Internet Exchange (PhIX) and Asia Pacific countries including Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand. This way, all the information you want to send through the internet will have arrived long before you finish this paragraph. And because Vitro is equipped with the most advanced security systems available, your equipment and data remain secure. We've even installed redundant power and environmental systems to ensure continuous operation 24/7, and engineered the building to seismic zone 4 compliance.

Whether you want co-location services, hosting, business continuity services, security solutions or application services with secure and reliable high bandwidth internet access, we can do it for you. For more information email us at vitro@epldt.com

VITRO
Internet Data Center
www.vitro.epldt.com

NIIT, the latest buzz among IT denizens

Microsoft Philippines, Oracle and other firms commend the top IT institution

"FOR two decades, NIIT has constantly amazed its market with innovative solutions that have been contributing significantly to the progress of both the global learning business and the global software industry. And for many years, NIIT has been aggressively utilizing Microsoft's extensive line of server platforms such as Exchange and its Office 2000-based Digital Dashboard technology in powering a host of strong e-commerce, workflow and systems integration solutions.

"We at Microsoft are happy and extremely honored for being a part of NIIT's remarkable thrust of successfully creating solutions that promotes and strengthens global online learning, as well as setting new benchmarks in business software developer productivity. NIIT's presence in the Philippines will no doubt help reinforce the country's vision of soon achieving full Knowledge Economy status. As one of our strategic partners–NIIT is a Microsoft Premier Education and Training Center —I would like to extend Microsoft Philippines' warmest welcome to NIIT and to reiterate our company's support to your present and future activities in the country."

— **Richard Francis, Microsoft Philippines Managing Director**

"NIIT answered Oracle's call for producing projects on-time, within budget and consistently met all quality criteria. The commitment, follow-through, IT subject expertise and professional maturity of the NIIT staff made the working experience ideal – they became an extension of our very own team."

— **WLeake Little, Director, Global Planning and Business Development, Oracle Education**

"NIIT is the only IT training company in the world able to provide IT training in the three available forms-classroom style, Internet-based and computer-based training (CBT) multi-media products. NIIT is one of the top ten training companies in the world by revenue.

"NIIT develops courseware for Microsoft certification and for CA. Not only are these high-profile alliances, they reflect NIIT's ability to succeed in working with global leaders and assisting them with their training needs."

— **Goldman Sachs**

"NIIT is a great partner. Each time we have worked with them, they have delivered everything we have asked for and more. Their experience, expertise, and professionalism make them wonderful to work with. "

— **Steve Elston, Group Manager, Microsoft Corporation**

"A key factor in the success of an IT services company is the ability to attract and retain employees. NIIT has among the best human resource policies in the country."

— **Credit Lyonnais Securities Asia**

"In our opinion, NIIT's earnings are among the most sustainable in the sector. Our Outperform rating is based on what we believe is the Company's good management, promising strategy for main businesses, good human resources practices…"

— **Morgan Stanley Dean Witter**

"NIIT has been instrumental in the development of leading edge multimedia presentations of subject matter… As true partners, NIIT and NETg have successfully worked through a variety of challenges year-after through a combination of hard work and creative thinking while maintaining a solid vision of the goals required for our ultimate mutual success."

— **Ken Grisham, Vice President, Product Development, NETg**

"NIIT Limited is India's top-tier software exporter, with a geographically diversified client base…"

— **Credit Suisse First Boston**

Excellence in Microsoft CTEC Training Award

— **Microsoft Asia Fusion 99, Hong Kong**

"From the instructional design perspective, the materials are well written, clear, and have a professional look and feel."

— **Larry Borgese, Curriculum Manager, Computer Associates**

e-Technology, your tool to enter theemerging eBusiness

NIIT's revolutionary curriculum equips students with the knowledge and skills for them to fill the demand of a fast growing IT industry

TODAY, in every young person's mind, a question is waiting to be answered. "One day will be someone? There are so many careers to choose from, which one should I take? And from where?"

The fact is, in today's competitive world, an academic qualification by itself is simply not enough. And without a professional qualification the chances of getting ahead are rather bleak.

Consider for a moment Information Technology (IT)—the world's fastest growing industry today. Everyday, thousands of successful IT careers are being created across the world. With the right training alone, you can qualify and excel, walk into a job, grow it and become a success.

Take a closer look at what our program has to offer. The Certificate in e-Technology equips you with strong fundamentals and assists you in becoming a Web Programmer.

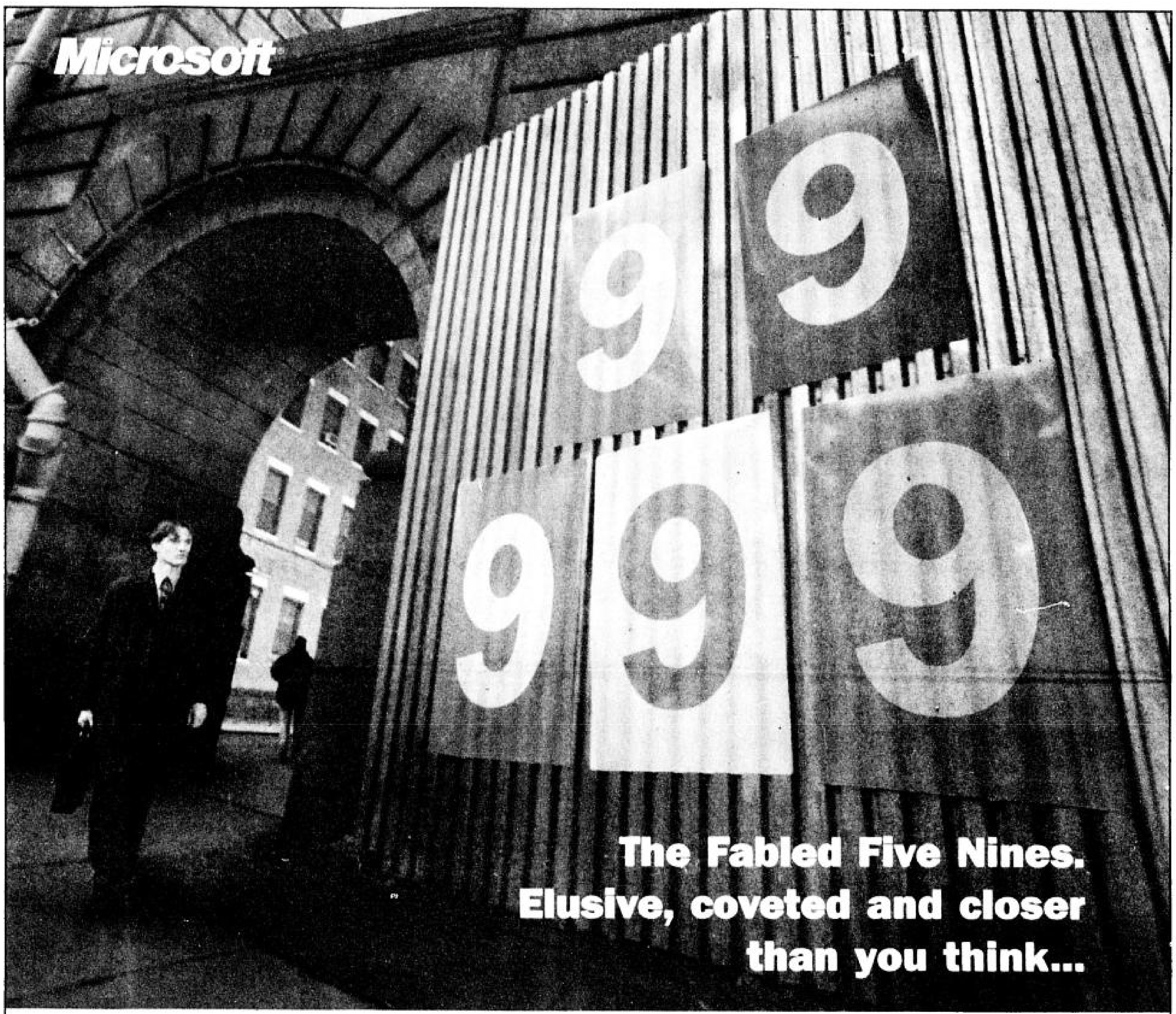
The Honors Diploma in e-Technology assists you in becoming an Object Oriented Application Programmer.

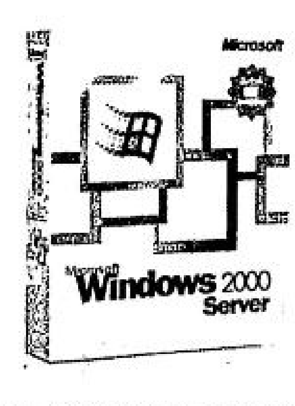
The Professional Diploma in e-Technology assists you in becoming an Object Oriented Application Programmer.

The Professional Diploma in e-Technology assists you in becoming an e-Technology Application Designer and Developer.

To qualify, you must have completed 10 years of school education.

Our goal is to develop you into a well-rounded software ready to take on the best IT career opportunities anywhere in the world.





The Windows 2000 Server family — bringing you about as close to perfection as you can get without defying any law of nature.

For a server system, the five nines are a measure of reliability that translate into just over five minutes of server downtime per year. For your business, that means servers are up and running when people need them.

Of course, rumors of this 99.999% uptime usually start only under ideal lab conditions. But where are these five nines when your business needs them? If you're using Microsoft Windows 2000 Server-based solutions, they may be closer than you think.

Today, International companies like Starbucks, FreeMarkets and MortgageRamp, an affiliate of GMAC Commercial Mortgage, are using Windows 2000 Server-based systems designed to deliver 99.999% server uptime.

And although not all installations require this level of reliability, one thing is sure: the Windows 2000 Server family can help you get to the level of reliability you need.

In fact, industry leaders such as Compaq, Hewlett-Packard and Unisys can work with you to deliver solutions with up to five nines uptime.

Software for the Agile Business.

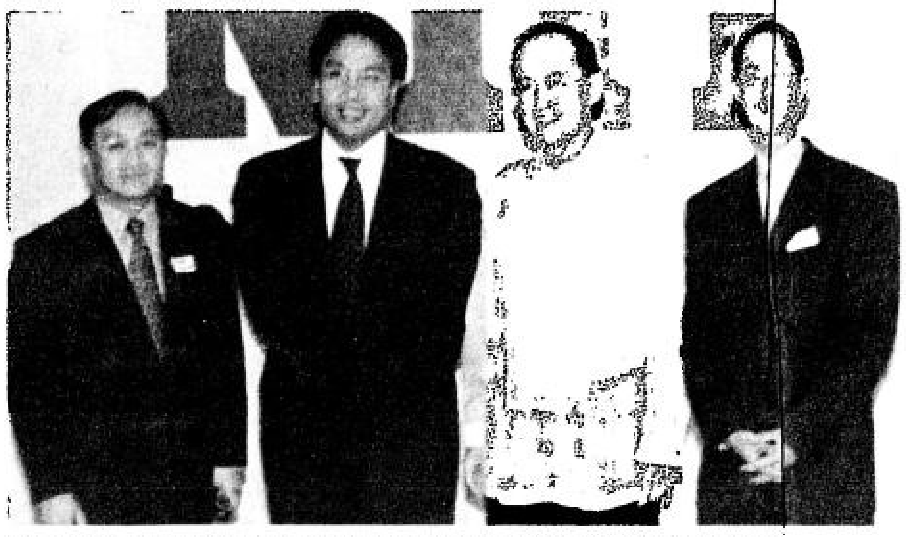
To learn more about server solutions you can count on, visit
www.microsoft.com/windows2000/servers
For details on Microsoft seminars and product information, call Microsoft Support Services at (632) 886-5658, or send email to phprod@microsoft.com

Among those who graced the NIIT Makati opening: NIIT's Malou Jopillo, DTI Sec. Mar Roxas, India Consul Gupta, and PLDT's Manny Pangilinan

Particip nts in the ribbon tting ceremo ies were Sec. M Roxas, Manny angilinan, Fr. Can laria, and Fr. Ben ebres of Ateneo e Manila.

NIIT Makati, the next stop for IT learning, formally opens

Compaq's Tan Choon Seng and Nilo Cruz, with Manny Pangilinan and Jay Silayan



Mindstream, Inc.'s chairman Francisco Dizon with Manny Pangilina Sec. Mar Roxas, and Jay Silayan.

TOP government officials and key people from the telecommunications and IT industry graced the formal opening of NIIT Makati housed at Salustiana D. Ty Tower.

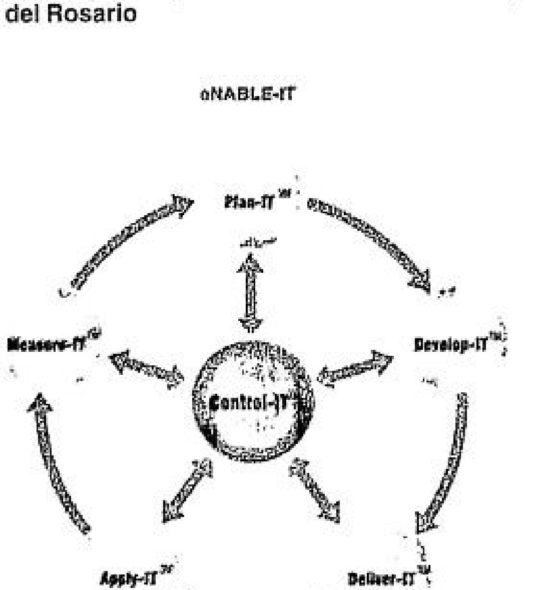
Department of Trade and Industry secretary Manuel Roxas, PLDT CEO Manny Pangilinan, Consul Gupta from the Embassy of India and Rogelio Marasigan from Mayor Binay's office attended the affair.

The NIIT Makati branch has fully airconditioned classrooms, a library, computers and other facilities.

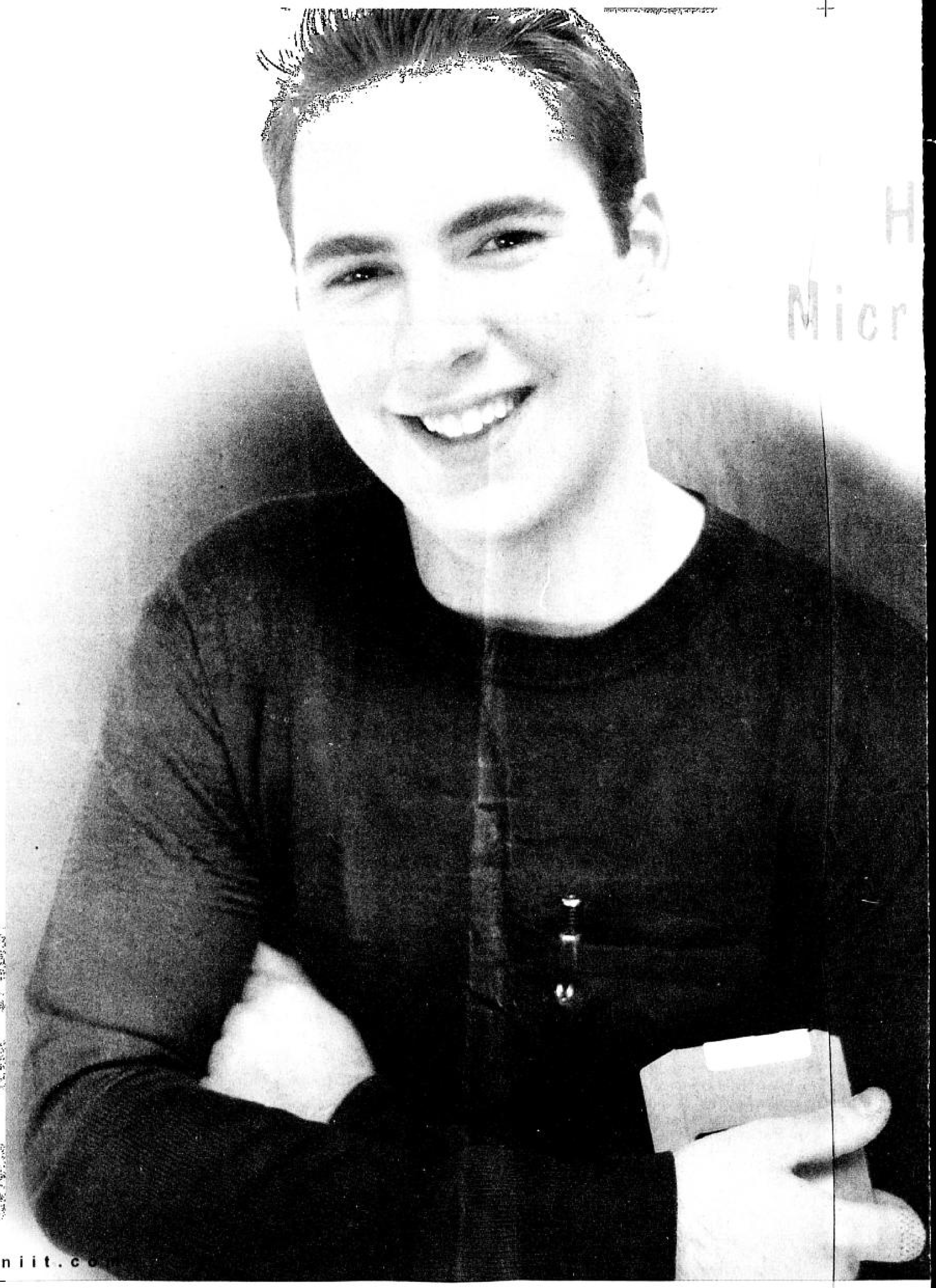
The affair was also graced by Fr. Ben Nebres and John Paul Vergara of Ateneo de Manila University, Richard Francis and Marcy Venezuela of Microsoft Philippines, Al Onglao, PC Tech, Leo Querubin, Tesda and Sun Microsystems, Jesus Victor Feria of SVI Corporation, Ariel Roda of ePLDT, George Tan, ePLDT and Minsdstream Inc., Kathryn Concepcion-Carag, ePLDT, Tan Choon Seng and Nilo Cruz, Compaq, Toby Munsod, Department of Trade and Industry, Gigi Garcia and Gigi Tibi, Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, Manny Dizon, ePLDT, Arvi Perez, Next Century Partners, Miguel Perez, Chase Capital, Augusto Gonzalez, Project Quest Capital, Kenneth Uy, Project Quest Capital, Vince Perez, Board of Investment, Nikka Singson, Compaq, and Arlyn Lavarias, ePLDT.

NIIT, one of the world's best IT learning institutions, has started operations in the country this March. Its other branches are in Taft, Manila, West Avenue, Quezon City, Ortigas Center, and Alabang.

ePLDT's Manny Dizon, Ariel Roda, and Buddy del Rosario



Key components of eNABLE-IT, through which NIIT addresses the complete IT training needs of large organizations.



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Tel. No.: 441-0101 • Alabang - 2/F Doña Marta Building, Alabang-Zapote Rd. (fronting ISUZU), Tel. No.: 775-7001 • Ortigas Center (opens in April - G/F, Greenwic

Want to be an IT hotshot?

Read these credentials:

- One of the first 12 organizations to receive the SEI-CMM Level 5 Certificate
- Has training alliances with Microsoft, Oracle, Red Hat and Computer Associates
- Global clients include IBM, World Bank, British Airways and Sun Microsystems
- Has academic alliances with international universities in the United Kingdom, United States, Australia, Malaysia and the Philippines
- Awarded the "Best Training Company" by Computer World Magazine
- Microsoft's Best Training Partner in Asia

They all belong to NIIT, the new international IT school on the block.

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(Australian Embassy)
Tel. No: 830-3000

NIIT Manila
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Tel. No: 405-0018

NIIT Quezon City
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(near McDonald's)
Tel. No: 441-0101

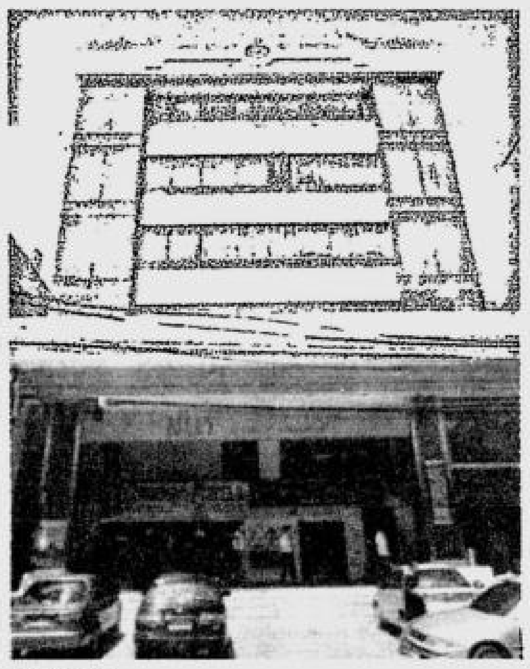
NIIT Alabang
2/F Doña Marta Building,
Alabang-Zapote Rd.
Tel. No.: 775-7001

NIIT Ortigas Center
G/F, Greenrich Mansion, Pearl Drive
corner Lourdes St.
Tel. No.: 689-1189

NIIT Quezon City

METROBANK
ALLIED
NIIT
NIIT Alabang

NIIT Makati staff


NIIT Taft

You know how IBM, Citibank,
ewlett-Packard, Ford and Sun
osystems keep good company?
They hire NIIT graduates."

NIIT
Learn how the world is doing IT

The most globally renowned companies rely on NIIT for the best minds in information technology. And why not? NIIT is the largest global IT education institution offering the freshest e-technology curriculum derived from its expertise in developing software solutions for renowned companies all over the world. As such, it provides a learning climate closest to the real-world environment. Its program of studies is designed to prepare students for the best e-commerce jobs anywhere in the world. Last year alone, NIIT's global placement network placed more than 16,000 graduates in global companies, including Fortune 500 companies. Truly, NIIT upholds a global standard like the world depended on it.

ates • Global clients include IBM, World Bank, British Airways and Sun Microsystems •
" by Computer World Magazine • Microsoft's Best Training Partner in Asia

e: (fronting PGH), Tel. No.: 405-0018 • Quezon City - 2/F Jafer Building, 118 West Avenue (near McDonald's),
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NIIT
Education Trust Administering Academic Alliances

Microsoft
Premier Education and Training Partner
Global Industry Partner

NIIT's education materials are developed using ISO 9001 certified processes.

ePLDT PLDT
Industry Partners

Business solutions by Pacific Northstar, Inc. (PNI)

PNI renders niche investment banking and financial advisory services focusing on mezzanine and large companies involved in high growth industries. PNI's transactions involve the delivery of professional and customized services, ideas and solutions required by companies in emerging industries whose needs are not met by more conventional financial institutions with "off-the-shelf" services.

PNI's services include: mergers and acquisition advisory, financial advisory for IPOs and other fundraising activities, project promotion for mezzanine companies and medium-to-large-scale start-up ventures, fund management, and arranging joint ventures.

Currently, PNI is acting as financial adviser to the shareholders of a company which operates a chain of home improvement centers for the purpose of identifying potential new investors for the company. Some of PNI's past transaction include:

- Financial Adviser to a major property development and management group engaged in the redevelopment of one of the country's most established commercial center.
- Financial Adviser to an established Philippine educational institution in its bid to acquire one of the country's premiere engineering schools.
- Financial adviser to the Madrigal Group in its strategic partnership with Bank of the Philippine Islands to acquire the holdings being divested by Citibank, NA in Citytrust Banking Corp.
- Financial Adviser to a major US energy company as it seeks a local partner with which to form a joint venture to engage in the power business in the Philippines.
- Financial Adviser to House of Investments and EEI Corp. in the Acquisition by EEI Corp. of the holdings of House of Investments in Philrock, Inc. and Subic Power Corp.
- Northstar Capital (PNI's predecessor) as Financial Adviser to Jollibee Foods Corporation in its Initial Public Offering.

Project Quest Corporation (PQC)

PQC is a venture capital fund organized and managed by PNI in 1996. PQC's principal mandate is to invest at the mezzanine level in companies with high growth prospects, with the main objective of generating substantial capital gains through the listing on the Philippine Stock Exchange of its investee companies. With P150 million in investible funds, PQC is pursuing two broad investment themes:

1. Investments in companies that serve those in the middle and lower income bracket which is a large, underserved market in the Philippines – consumer finance, health care, Internet cafes, convenience stores, foreign exchange remittance services.
2. Investments in business that capitalize on the use of our human resources which constitutes the main competitive advantage of the Philippines today – education and training, software development, medical transcription, shared services, and call centers.

Innodata standardizes on Compaq technology

CONTRARY to popular belief, Innodata is not a data encoding company. Well, at least not anymore.

"When we opened our doors ten years ago, we were data encoding specialists," says Klaas Brouwer, Vice President of Global Technology at Innodata Philippines, Inc. "Then the Internet happened and changed everything. We foresaw huge demand for digital content outsourcing services." For years, global giants such as IBM, Motorola and Cisco have outsourced their manufacturing requirements. "We predicted the same trend in online publishing," says Brouwer. "Few content owners can prepare or convert as much data as the Internet demands in-house. So we predicted that content creation and conversion would be outsourced on an unprecedented scale."

To meet the demand, Innodata transformed its old data encoding production into an automated, technology-driven workflow using Compaq servers to convert millions of documents to new formats - such as Extensible Markup Language (XML) - required for online publishing and hosting on the Internet. Unlike the Internet language HTML, which is used singularly to describe the appearance and placement of content, allowing it to be viewed on any Web browser, XML describes the content's meaning, which enables it to be understood and processed by any XML application. With the rising popularity of XML, a revolution in online publishing is now underway.

"We create XML content and manage XML data conversions for some of the largest online publishers in the world," adds Brouwer.

At Innodata's new XML Content Factory in Mandaue City, thousands of experienced web designers and programmers use 2,500 workstations to convert complex data to XML, create indexes, abstracts, hyperlinks, topic maps and other services in a complex automated workflow. "At Mandaue, we've built a data center with extremely high availability and enough speed to accommodate all the workstations. Obviously, we needed high-end equipment."

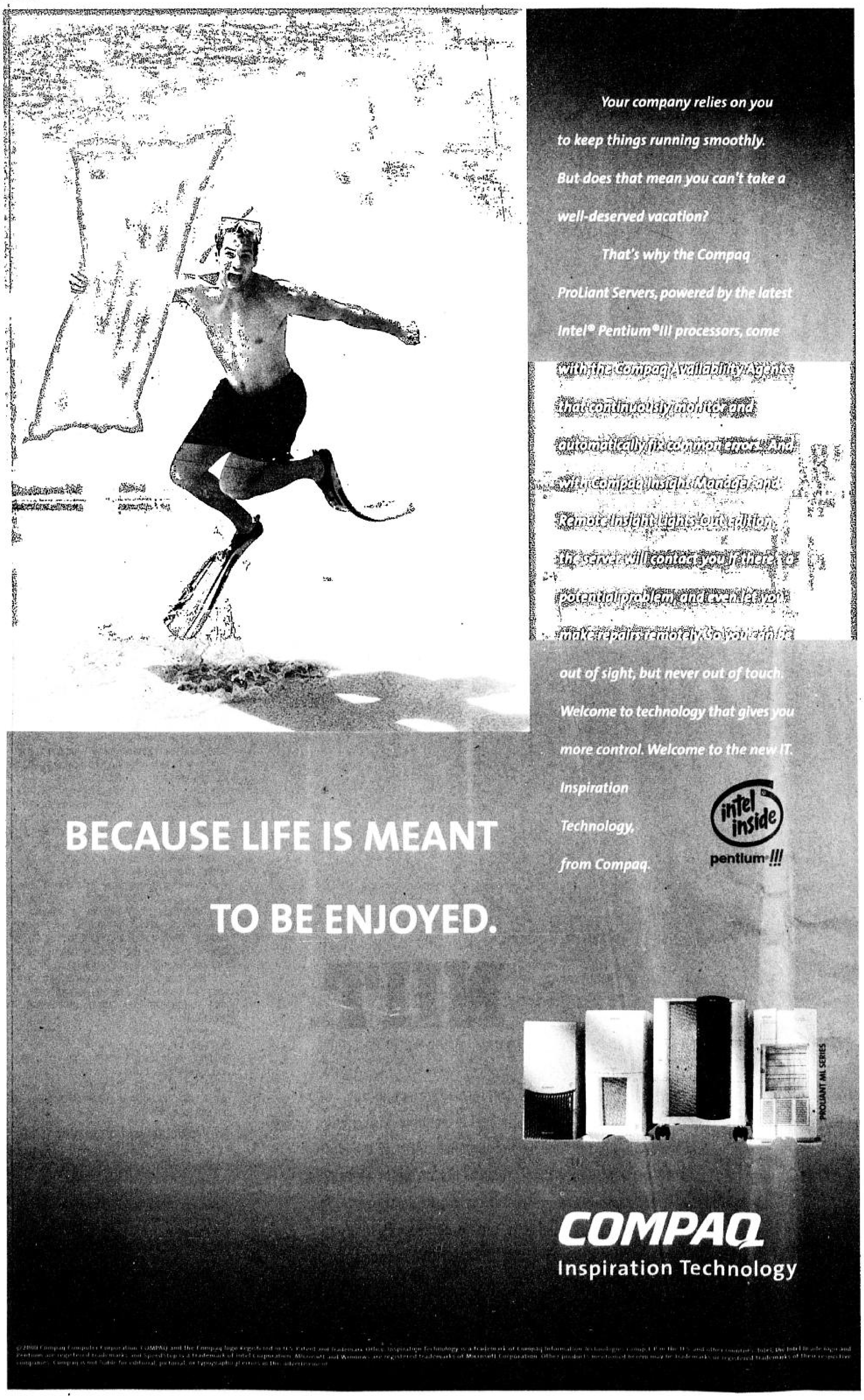
Thus the entry of Compaq. "There were innumerable choices in the IT marketplace for us. However, Compaq's high performance, cost-effective technology provided the best solution today with tremendous scalability, allowing us to grow to virtually any size in the future," explains Brouwer.

The XML Content Factory uses six Proliant 8500 8-way CPU servers, four Proliant DL380 2-way CPU servers, three expanded RA8000 storage arrays and one MA8000 storage array connected through a redundant Fibre Channel Switched Storage Area Network with seven terabytes of data storage. The Storage Area Network (SAN) implementation sets Innodata apart. As a dedicated data network, all data transfers between servers and storage cabinets take place within the SAN, which frees up bandwidth on the network for the users, giving Innodata a super fast network.

The Compaq installation at Mandaue functioned so well that Innodata has implemented Compaq technology at all of its facilities: in Manila, Cebu, Legaspi City, New Jersey (USA) and the newest plant in India, says Brouwer. "Our global adoption of Compaq allows us to automate the workflow of all our facilities, since all data is centralized."

Innodata saw the changes almost immediately, and liked what it saw. "Our workflow definitely improved. In the past, data was decentralized with servers located in several different locations," says Brouwer. "With the Compaq equipment, we can easily check production flow, which gives us remarkable control. From a security, statistics and management point of view, centralization of data has been the most valuable decision we've ever made."

As Innodata keeps pace with the growth in online information, Compaq is committed to moving forward with them. Affirms Brouwer: "Our partnership will grow stronger in the future. Our clients benefit from the performance and reliability of Compaq's servers and storage equipment. And Innodata benefits from the comprehensive value-added services that Compaq provides. We have many reasons to be delighted with Compaq."


Your company relies on you to keep things running smoothly. But does that mean you can't take a well-deserved vacation?

That's why the Compaq ProLiant Servers, powered by the latest Intel® Pentium®III processors, come with the Compaq Availability Agents that continuously monitor and automatically fix common errors. And with Compaq Insight Manager and Remote Insight Lights-Out Edition, the server will contact you if there's a potential problem and even let you make repairs remotely. So you can be out of sight, but never out of touch. Welcome to technology that gives you more control. Welcome to the new IT.

Inspiration Technology, from Compaq.

BECAUSE LIFE IS MEANT TO BE ENJOYED.

COMPAQ
Inspiration Technology

Windows 2000 Datacenter Server, SQL 2000 set record-breaking marks in scalability test

MICROSOFT Windows 2000 Datacenter Server and SQL Server 2000 created a formidable duo after successfully demonstrating unmatched price-performance and scalability capabilities in a recent test done for line-of-business and e-Commerce solutions running on Unisys and IBM's Intel-based hardware.

Microsoft's latest high-end operating system designed for the most demanding levels of scale and availability, Microsoft Windows 2000 Datacenter specializes on traditional back-end data center environments used in line-of-business applications as well as Internet-based solutions such as B2B and B2C.

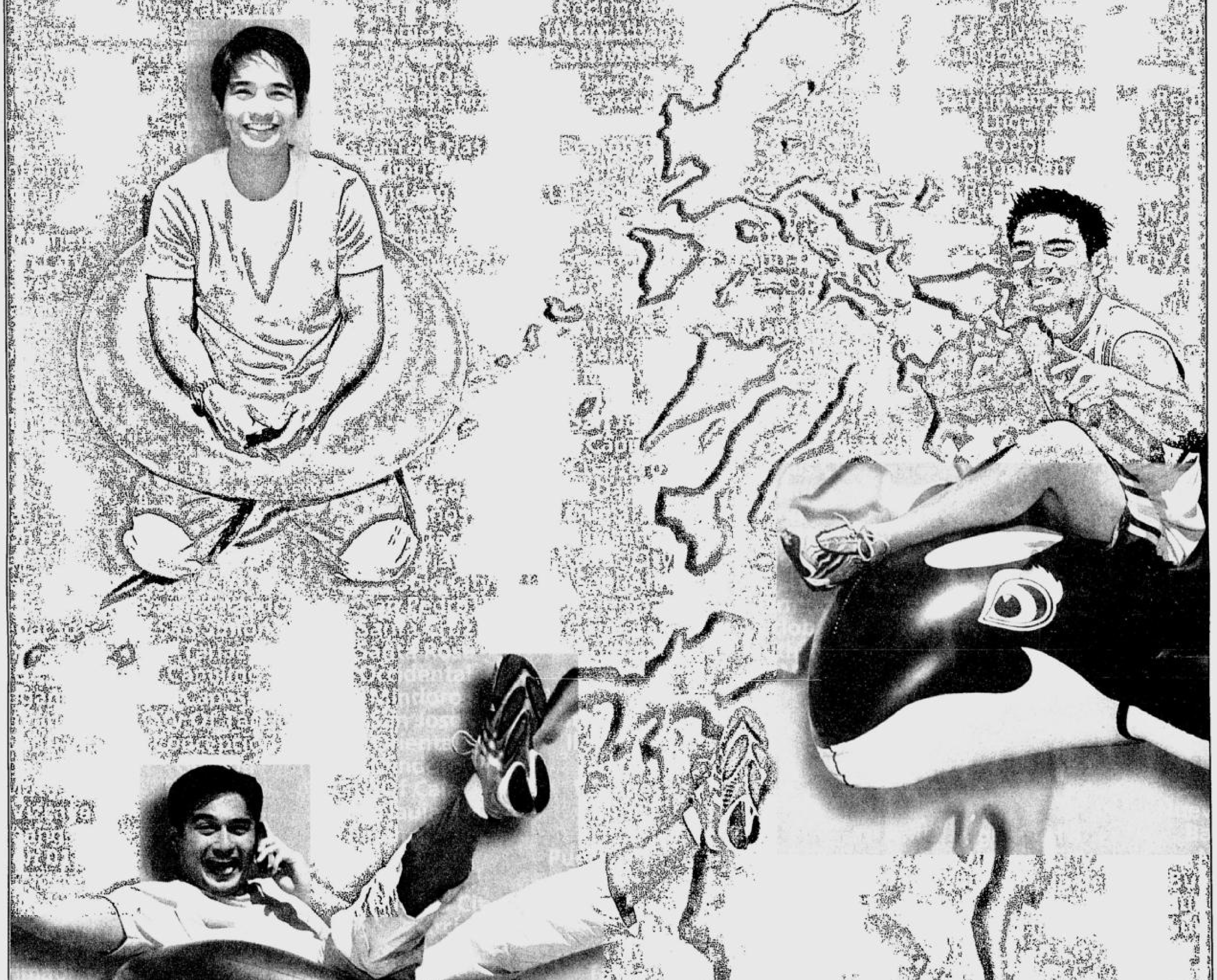
SQL Server 2000, on the other hand, is Microsoft's newest database and analysis engine designed for rapidly delivering scalable web applications. With built-in support for Extensible Markup Language, it provides easy data-exchange that allows the fast and seamless generation, storage and retrieval of data.

According to a test conducted by top benchmarking body Transaction Processing Performance Council (TPC), a 24-processor Unisys e@ction Enteprise Server ES7000 has set a new world record for performance by easily supporting 14,400 mySAP.com Sales and Distribution benchmark users on Windows 2000 Datacenter and SQL 2000 Enterprise Edition.

Together with Intel Pentium III Xeon, the two Microsoft platforms are also powering IBM xSeries 370 servers which proved to be capable of achieving 688,220 transactions per minute, recording the highest TPC-C figure ever achieved.

These results were recorded in the TPC-C benchmark category, which measures throughput in business transactions per minute and the performance and scalability of databases.

Pagdating sa NATIONWIDE COVERAGE, 'wag nang magpahuli!



Saan ka man naroroon, ano man ang gimmik mo, with Talk 'N Text's nationwide GSM coverage, 'di ka maiiwan! It's powered by the Smart network, the country's leading cellular operator, so you're sure your talk and text comes out fast and clear.

Enjoy great value-added services, affordable text and airtime rates... nationwide, with Talk 'N Text!

Yan ang galing... without overspending!

TALK 'N TEXT™ GSM

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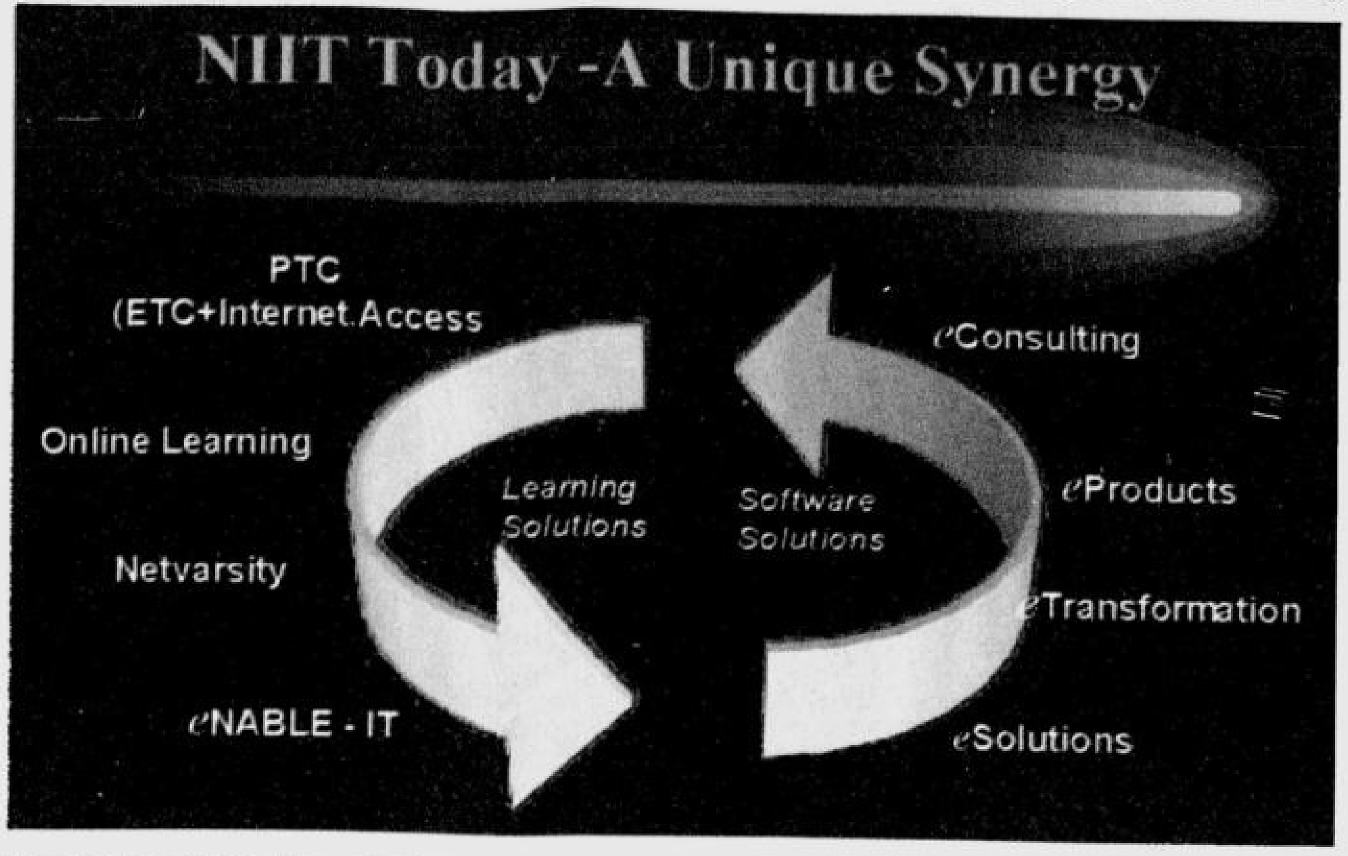
For inquiries, please call the Piltel Customer Hotline (02)848-8888 (GMA), (032)232-3200 (Visayas/Mindanao) or 15003 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

A QUICK GLANCE

Some features of NIIT's Learning Solutions



NIIT remains one of the largest providers of computer training. Building quality into the training skills it offers, NIIT went far beyond value-chain concepts to cutting-edge research in Cognitive Systems on the one hand and pure eCommerce technology on the other.

This has resulted in the creation and update of learning technologies that can be deployed anywhere, using multimedia, through the Net and on the ground.

From creating and delivering content, NIIT has moved up to providing end-to-end Learning solutions. To meet the specific needs of two very diverse customer profiles, individuals and corporations, NIIT has created distinct products, services and solutions.

The Teknowlogy factor enabled NIIT's software team to create the e-Technology Curriculum, aimed to equip students with everything they need to be successful in the Internet era.

It gives them a higher degree of proficiency in web programming, new technologies as well as a network and multi-user techniques, giving a keen edge to GNIIT title—NIIT flagship four-year IT training program.

The curriculum is based around the Model-Centered Learning Architecture, which was developed through years of intensive research, development, and validation.

It uses the context of the actual workplace and its environment to facilitate effective learning, rather than just teach features of software packages.

The NIITNetVarsity gives the learners the flexibility to learn through the Internet at their own time, pace and place. NIIT's Microsoft Online Training enables students to prepare for various Microsoft Certification exams through the innovative use of Computer-Based Training (CBT) and Net-Based Learning Services (NLS).

Today, as the number of students who come to NIIT continues to rise, our training network has increased to 2,007 centers in 27 countries including China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, United States, South Africa, and India to name a few.

For the corporate world, NIIT launched eNABLE-IT, an integrated enterprise-wide IT Training Solution.

It addresses the complete IT training needs of large organizations. These enterprises make effective use of the key components of eNABLE-IT.

PLAN IT, an IT training consultancy service, develops comprehensive training plans in line with the organization's HR and IT plans.

Develop-IT creates custom designed training solutions to meet their specific learning imperatives.

Deliver-IT offers cost-effective training solutions using a combination of Internet-based learning methodologies, computer-based and instructor-led training.

Apply-IT improves their ability to use the learning at work. Measure-IT offers customized testing solutions while Control-IT provides tools to manage the entire learning process.

To date, NIIT has created 314 CD-ROM-based educational multimedia titles on a variety of IT subjects, making NIIT among the largest producers of educational multimedia, worldwide.

In addition, NIIT has also created customized educational multimedia for organizations like NETg, Arthur Andersen, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Microsoft and Ministry of Defence-Singapore.

Some other initiatives in the area of training included:

- The launch of Microsoft training using NIIT's personalized learning framework at the NIIT Fast-Track Career Center in Atlanta. This integrates the best of on-line learning via the Internet with multimedia-based learning and personal interaction with experts. The net result is high quality learning with a high degree of flexibility for the learner.
- The development of highly comprehensive training programs on Microsoft Office 2000 called SWIFT Office 2000 for corporate and individual learners, which was launched a week before the launch of the product worldwide.
- Creation and delivery of learning content for Computer Associates on Unicenter TNG, the global standard in total Enterprise Management Software.
- The launch of the Microsoft Sales Specialist Program, conducted by NIIT and NIS, which focused on recognizing sales opportunities for Microsoft products, responding to customer needs, and selling the business value of a Microsoft solution.
- A study conducted by NIS to understand the customer interfacing process of the Indian Railways, resulting in the Customer Goodwill Program. This involves training 100,000 of their employees on customer handling and attitude development skills.

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	Paco	14,556
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	Pasay	40,008
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VISAYAS	LOCATION	AVAILABLE LINES
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	Bata	163
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	Dingle	257
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	Panakan	230
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Join the largest provider of software for e-business ! Our clients include the nation's top 100 companies, government agencies, multinational corporations as well as small to medium businesses. If you belong to the country's best IT professionals and you're looking for great challenges in your career, it's time to become part of our winning team.

SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGERS

(Code: SAM)

❑ *Proactive and customer-centric professionals who will promote Oracle products and services in the following market sector - Financial (Banking & Insurance), Public Services, Telecommunications and Commercial/ Industrial,*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least five (5) years SUCCESSFUL track record of selling Information Technology products to large corporations/government agencies in any of the above mentioned market sector
- Ability to discuss strategic business intelligently with top management
- Both industry and enterprise wide experience helping customers with business information planning and/or core process improvement
- Ability to coordinate a sales team's effort across various customer settings (e.g. MIS, operating managers, top management) and orchestrate internal Oracle resources across regional and international boundaries.

E-BUSINESS SALES CONSULTANTS

(Code: ESC)

❑ *Highly innovative professionals responsible for the technical relationship with the customer and for ensuring that Oracle wins product evaluations in Applications.*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- BS or MS in Accounting, Business, Engineering, or Computer Science
- 5+ years experience within the software industry
- A minimum of 3 years experience working in a presales capacity supporting packaged software solutions or experience with Oracle's database and tools
- Experience in systems analysis and/ or client needs analysis
- Excellent written and interpersonal communication skills
- Proven analytical and problem solving skills
- Good project planning and time management skills
- Ability to build and support applications and/ or core products demo systems
- Functional expertise in any of the following areas: Financials, Manufacturing, Projects, CRM, or HRMS/ Payroll
- Knowledge of business systems applications
- Experience with SAP, PeopleSoft, Siebel, BAAN, or JD Edwards helpful
- Sales experience a definite plus

CHANNEL ACCOUNT MANAGERS

(Code : CAM)

❑ *Proactive and customer-centric professionals who will be responsible for producing required sales revenue within the channels sector exclusively through partner engagement*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Strong Indirect sales experience, 8 to 10 years
- IT, Software industry experience
- Knowledge of and/or experience with channels business, indirect channel market, distribution trends, systems and service market is desirable
- Relationship and Account Management
- Solution Selling capability and Business management and review capabilities

CHANNEL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

(Code : CDM)

❑ *Aggressive individuals who will be responsible for initiating, developing and expanding strategic alliance relationship with partners and who will assume a leadership role in high level strategic partner development activities*

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Technology pre-sales consultant with a flair for business development
- Good understanding of the Technology market and the players in that market
- Ability to understand the partner Training and Pre-sales needs/requirements
- Ability to work closely with CAMs
- Ability to design and roll-out demand generation programs

We challenge you to be part of a visionary, highly ambitious worldwide organization committed to providing our clients with leading edge solutions. We offer a career path, international training, and a remuneration package designed to compete with the best. Interested candidates must send their resume with salary history to :

**The HR Director (e-mail address : HR-ID_PH@oracle.com)
ORACLE SYSTEMS (PHILIPPINES), INC.
19/F Pacific Star Bldg. Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City**

A large and established American Multinational Consumer Packaged Company is seeking qualified applicants for various positions:

FINANCE

Financial Planning Analyst (FP)

- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old
- Accounting, business or economics degree holder gained from a reputable university; should belong to top 15% of graduating class
- Preferably with MBA degree or units
- With experience in Corporate/Strategic Planning and/or Financial Analysis gained from a multinational environment or accounting firm/management consulting/business research organization
- Excellent report-writing, verbal and interpersonal skills
- Highly motivated, fast-tracker, works well under pressure

Senior Accountants (AC)

- 23-35 years old, Accounting graduate and must be a CPA
- Preferably with MBA degree or units
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Can work with minimum supervision, keen on details and possesses high analytical skills
- With strong working knowledge in any of the following areas acquired from a medium to large food manufacturing firm:
  - Cost Accounting
  - Financial Accounting
  - General Accounting

Accounts Receivable Analyst (AR)

- Graduate of a business course, preferably in Accountancy
- Must have at least 3 years experience in credit and accounts receivable management in a manufacturing or trading business
- Should be knowledgeable in sales and distribution operations
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Highly proficient in Windows based computer applications

OPERATIONS

Production Supervisors (PS)

- 25-35 years old, licensed BS Mechanical or Chemical Engineers
- Must have at least 2 to 3 years minimum supervisory experience in a food manufacturing plant
- Strong leadership & interpersonal skills
- Willing to work on shifts
- Computer literate

HUMAN RESOURCES

HR Officer/HR Associates (HR-S)

- Male or Female, 28-35 years old
- Graduate of Psychology or any behavioral course
- Highly organized with strong interpersonal skills
- Excellent communication skills
- At least three years experience in supervisory capacity
- Experienced in all facets of human resources management especially in the areas of recruitment, compensation and benefits administration and employee/labor relations

If you are interested, please send your comprehensive resumé indicating your last salary, contact numbers, and the code to:

**Human Resources Department
P.O. Box No. MK-60
C/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City**

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If you think that you have the capability and expertise to lead and manage our team of salespeople, then you are the kind of leader we want.

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Please send or fax your resume in any of our Business Development Centers nearest you. You may also call or drop by to set an appointment with us.

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MARKETING & SALES EXECUTIVE

Will be expected to contribute to the company's growth in terms of revenue, profitability and market leadership through the effective execution or implementation of strategic programs. Will closely work with the different distribution channels for them to meet their respective sales or revenue targets and should be keenly sensitive to market dynamics and competitive activities. A seasoned executive with solid track record in marketing and sales ideally gained from a financial services organization. Familiarity with the managed health care industry will be an advantage.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

College degree holder, ideally in his/her mid to late 30's. With experience in providing administrative support to a top executive in terms of providing background information needed for decision-making, preparing reports needed during meetings, composing correspondences and drafting speeches. Should be very fluent in oral and written English communication, attentive to details and with sense of urgency.

CHINESE MARKETING MANAGER

28-35 years old. Will be tasked with business, market and product development for the Chinese Market Department. With at least 5 years of sales and marketing experience, preferably gained from the financial services industry (i.e. banking and insurance). Must have a wide network of contacts in the Filipino-Chinese community. Should possess exceptional leadership capabilities and know how to speak Chinese. Willing to travel.

ACCOUNT OFFICER (TRUST)

College graduate with finance background, preferably female, not more than 35 years old. Equipped with at least 2 years' experience in account management. Will liaise with trust clients on matters related to the requirements of the trust accounts, determine the investible funds of the trust accounts and handle coordination with departments concerned. Should be articulate in English communication and highly customer-oriented.

TRUST OPERATIONS OFFICER

CPA with trust accounting/operations experience, not over 35 years old. Will handle the trust books as well as the books of the individual trust funds. Will take charge of the operations aspects of the Trust Group such as cashiering, compliance with BSP requirements on trust reserves, reporting, etc. Must show administrative capabilities, effective planning and decision making skills.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Female college degree holder with 5 to 10 years' experience in providing assistance to a senior officer, if not the top executive of a medium-sized or large corporation, preferably a multinational company. 35 to 42 years old, with highly developed skills in decision-making and task prioritization. Should possess well-developed social skills to be able to interact with different personalities. Articulate in English communication, particularly in composing correspondences. Literate in most MS Office applications and able to take down dictation, ideally using stenography.

CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER

25-30 years old, Economics or Business Economics graduate, with an MA in Economics or MBA. Must have 2-5 years of work experience in economic research, corporate planning or other related fields. Highly creative and with excellent oral and written communication skills. Computer literate. Linkages with various economic and media institutions is desirable.

PROPERTY UNDERWRITER

Will be responsible for marketing, underwriting, preparing the policy and administration of the property business lines. Must be a licensed Underwriter. Male/female, 30 to 35 years old, preferably an Engineering graduate with at least one year of experience in property underwriting. Highly analytical, computer literate, can communicate and relate with people effectively.

We will offer competitive compensation and benefits packages to the right candidates. Qualified applicants may send their resumés, transcript of records and photos to the indicated address. Please write the position you are applying for if you are sending your resume via e-mail at Philamlife-HR.Recruitment@aig.com.

CORPORATE HR
PO Box 2167, Manila, Philippines

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APTi

APTI-Philippines, Inc. is a Research and Development Company and an affiliate of IBM Japan, Ltd. and TOSHIBA TEC Corp.

Research and Development is a way of life in APTI-Philippines. We encourage our people to challenge present technologies to come up with better ones. In the highly volatile I.T. industry, we strive to be among the leaders to drive its growth and direction, anticipating the next stages of technology evolution.

Join us now and be a part of the FUTURE!

We are involved in:

- Microcode Development for Laser and High-Speed Impact Printers, and POS Terminals.
- Device Drivers, Middleware and Network, POS and other Software Applications Development.
- Quality Assurance Services

We are looking for Highly Motivated and Experienced IT Professionals and Developers for the following:

HARDWARE Engineer

Main Job: To design and develop controller cards and ASICs specifically for the printer market. Qualifications:

- at least 1 year industry experience in digital design
- Experience in RTL synthesis and design flow
- Proficiency in VHDL design
- Industry experience in Analog design an advantage
- Proficiency in Verilog or mixed HDL design an advantage
- Experience in using industry level design tools an advantage

SOFTWARE Engineer

Main Job: To design and develop software applications; to create various utilities for POS System. Qualifications:

- At least 1 year industry experience in software development using Visual C++ and Visual Basic
- Full Knowledge of Windows 9X environment
- Knowledge in using SQL, MS SQL an advantage
- Familiar with Windows NT/2000 an advantage

MICROCODE/FIRMWARE Engineer

Main Job: To design and develop printer microcode (firmware), driver and print manager. Qualifications:

- At least 1 year industry experience in printer-related projects in Windows, Linux or OS/2
- Experience in Developing Embedded Systems (e.g. printer, cell phone, pager, PDA)
- Knowledgeable in C/C++ and Assembly Language Programming
- Possess Good Logic
- Familiar with equipment such as logic analyzer and oscilloscope

ASSOCIATE Product Quality Assurance Engineer

Main Job: To assume the role of a product leader who can control and manage the schedule, resources (including people and equipment) and quality of any given project. It also involves technical leadership that requires coping with the latest technology in the computing industry. Qualifications:

- 3 years work experience in the IT industry (either development or quality assurance)
- At least 1 year project management experience (either development or quality assurance project)
- Knowledge and experience in various Operating Systems is an advantage.
- Knowledge and experience in network administration (Win NT or Netware) an advantage.
- Knowledge of Visual basic, Visual C/C++ or Lotus Notes Script Programming an advantage.

All applicants must be graduates of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, BS ECE, or other 4-5 years computer related course, Japanese Language ability is an advantage. Candidates must possess Strong Leadership Skills, Solid Interpersonal Communication Skills, and must be a Team Player.

ACCOUNTANT

Main Job: To handle general financial and tax accounting with participation in financial planning and control.

- CPA, with at least 3 years work experience in Auditing or General Accounting
- Female, not more than 28 years old
- Single
- Preferably residing near Alabang
- Graduate of BS Accountancy or BS in Commerce major in Accounting
- Good Oral and written communication skills
- Knowledge in Japanese Language (Nihongo) an advantage
- Must be computer literate, possess high potential for management position in the future.
- Result-oriented and a team player

Compensation and Benefits:

- Outstanding opportunities to work with Top Multinational IT Companies Worldwide
- Attractive remuneration package and career advancement
- Japanese Language Training
- Opportunities to travel overseas

We are now hiring for our Alabang and Cebu Offices. Applicants may send their application letter, resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 ID picture and supporting credentials through the following addresses:

Alabang Office: P.O. Box 187, Ayala-Alabang Post Office, 1799, Muntinlupa City
Cebu Office: Rm 205 TPL Building, Banilad Road corner Maria Luisa Estate Park, Cebu City 6000

You may also send your resumé (TEXT format only) through the following Email addresses:

For Luzon Applicants: **jobs@aptiphils.com**
For Visayas-Mindanao: **cebujobs@aptiphils.com**

Visit our Homepage at **http://www.aptiphils.com**

MANAGERIAL

DE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY-PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS, INC.

The Information Technology Center is in need of qualified professionals, who are willing to learn and are self-motivated, to fulfill the following positions:

CFO Systems Administrator/Jr. Systems Administrator

Performs administration of servers and routers (hardware and operating system)

- Preferably male
- Preferably, a BS CS/ECE degree holder
- At least three (3) years experience in computer operations and networking field
- Has supervisory skills
- Has good interpersonal skills
- Knowledge of advanced computer operations
- Knowledge of Linux, Open VMS, and Windows NT/2000
- Can design, implement and maintain LAN
- Knowledge of TCP/IP networking/routing concepts and implementation
- Knowledge of trouble-shooting techniques
- Good in oral and written communication

CFO Help Desk - Night Shift

Provides assistance on ITC services to web and PC users

- Graduate of any Bachelor degree
- Knows Internet e-mail and web browsing
- Proficient in MS Windows and MS Office
- Preferably, knows how to use interactive xBASE or SQL
- Preferably, knows PC set-up and configuration
- Knowledge of problem solving techniques
- Good in oral and written communication
- Has patience and pleasing personality

PRIO Research Analyst/Research Assistant

Provides support for quality improvement and process streamlining

- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering
- Proficient in MS Windows and MS Office
- Knowledge of TQM frameworks and practices
- Knowledge of procedure analysis, formulation, and flowcharting
- With good analytical skill
- Good in oral and written communication

DOCU Research Assistant

Creates and maintains web pages and designs graphics

- Graduate of any Bachelor degree, preferably in fine arts
- Proficient in MS Windows and MS Office
- Knowledge of Internet web authoring
- Preferably, with experience in desktop publishing and advertising arts
- Good in oral and written communication
- Has patience and pleasing personality

DAO Research Assistant

Generates reports and assists in database handling

- Graduate of any BS degree, preferably IT, CS or related fields
- Knowledge of information flow analysis and database concepts
- With good analytical skill
- Preferably, knows xBASE for the generation of reports
- Good in oral and written communication
- Has patience and pleasing personality

Submit an application letter indicating the job position, comprehensive resume with a 2"x2" picture and a copy of your Transcript of Records. For Research Assistant (DOCU), please bring samples of your work. Address the above mentioned to:

Samuel P. Mallare (cscspm@mail.dlsu.edu.ph)
DIRECTOR
Information Technology Center - Room 308 Gokongwei Building
De La Salle University, Taft Avenue, Manila 1004

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSOCIATE DATA COMMUNICATIONS ANALYST

The Position

- Responsible for the study, implementation and maintenance of the Enterprise Management System (EMS) and monitoring of data Local and Wide Area Networks (LAN and WAN);
- Evaluates EMS solutions available in the market;
- Studies, records, and documents ADB critical applications and services to be included in the EMS;
- Monitors the performance of the EMS and coordinates improvements and upgrades to the system;
- Studies and recommends procedures related to the EMS and records such procedures;
- Regularly submits EMS performance and outage reports describing problems encountered and resource requirements to improve quality of service;
- Keeps records of all data LAN and WAN components and maintains networks related documentation;
- Studies and recommends change control procedures related to the networks and keeps record of such procedures, and
- Studies new networking technologies relevant to ADB operations

The Requirements

- University degree in MIS, Computer Science, Computer Engineering or related fields;
- At least five years' experience in the IT field with three years dedicated to the implementation and management of Enterprise Management Systems like Openview, Tivoli, Patrol or Unicenter;
- Experience in LANs, WANs, including knowledge of switching environment, LAN and WAN architecture and interconnection, TCP/IP and SNMP protocol;
- Experience in policy and procedure management issues;
- Familiarity with Windows NT, Lotus Notes and Cisco products; and
- Good organization and communication skills.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-05CS by 11 May 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Women are actively encouraged to apply. **Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.**

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSISTANT SYSTEMS LIBRARIAN

The Position

- Reports directly to the Chief Librarian;
- Coordinates automated services implementation, updates user documentation in ADB's Library, and arranges training for staff in the use of library systems;
- Performs workflow analysis, contributes to development of specifications for the enhancement of information systems in the Library, and monitors library systems projects implementation;
- Maintains the integrated library system by managing the day-to-day operations, executing processing flow in accordance with operating procedures, maintaining various system records, designing forms, and extracting data for reports; and
- Participates in development and evaluation of Library's print and electronic collections; maintains the Library's website and undertakes special projects.

The Requirements

- College degree in Library/Information Science or equivalent combination of education and experience; Masters degree preferred;
- At least five years related professional experience, including hands-on use of bibliographic retrieval and networked information systems;
- Strong analytical, problem solving and organizational skills;
- Knowledge of current trends in electronic dissemination of information and library automation; and
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work in team

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-04CS by 11 May 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444 HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550 ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Women are actively encouraged to apply. **Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.**

MANAGERIAL

An international consulting organization requires site staff to assist in the construction management of new food production facilities south of Manila. The proposed facilities will include a production building, large administration building, canteen and ancillary facilities including security centre and water treatment plants. The construction period will be approximately 18 months.

We are seeking to employ on a contract basis individuals with more than 5 years of recent construction experience in the following disciplines:

- **Civil Engineers**
- **Structural Engineers**
- **Mechanical Engineers**
- **Electrical Engineers**
- **Mechanical Engineers**
- **Fire Services Engineers**
- **Hydraulic Engineers**
- **Architects**

Interested individuals should submit their CV with contact details (telephone, fax and email) at the reception desk at the following address no later than 17:00hrs on Thursday 3rd May 2001.

7th Floor, Raha Sulayman Building
108 Benavidez Street, Legaspi Village
Makati City

Alternatively, CV's may be submitted by email to
maunamyb@mozcom.com

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in sync
INSTITUTIONAL SYNERGY, INC.

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES

Our client, a **BATANGAS-based** Japanese *start-up* manufacturing company, is in need of a competent and highly qualified candidate to fill in the position of:

PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

(Code: PAM-04/29)

THE REQUIREMENTS:

The ideal candidate must have at least a college degree and must be well versed in all aspects of human resources management and administration. He or she must have a minimum of three years experience as Personnel Manager gained from the manufacturing industry, and have a functional background in accounting. Very good communication and interpersonal skills are, as well, mandatory to the post.

The company offers a competitive compensation and benefits package. Qualified applicants are invited to send their resumés with application letters, including contact numbers, current and expected pay, and a recent photograph (indicate code on the envelope **PAM-04/29**) to:

Institutional Synergy, Inc.
Unit 608, 6/F Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Or e-mail to: **execsearch@insync.com.ph**

For more inquiries, call **636-8114** to **15** or **631-2612**.

TYREMART
INCORPORATED
Sole Distributor in the Philippines
DUNLOP TYRES

A PROGRESSIVE TIRE COMPANY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL:

CREDIT AND COLLECTION OFFICER

☑ Not more than 30 years old
☑ Experience in credit and collection activities such as aging of accounts, background investigations, grant of credit facilities and familiarity with negotiable instruments preferred
☑ Computer literate

SALES AGENTS

☑ Not more than 30 years old
☑ Must have some previous experience in the tire industry
☑ Must be aggressive and self-motivated, with pleasing personality
☑ Strong selling skills

SALES SECRETARY

☑ Not more than 27 years old
☑ Smart with pleasing personality, aggressive and self-motivated
☑ Computer literate

ACCOUNTING STAFF

☑ Accounting graduate, not more than 27 years old
☑ Computer literate
☑ Can work diligently with minimum supervision
☑ Pleasing personality, trustworthy and hardworking

All applicants must be female, college graduate, with good oral and written communication skills. Interested parties may send their complete resumé with 2x2 photo and school credentials to 347 Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City or call 723-6889.

UBX

***U-BIX CORPORATION**, a leading provider of office equipment, furniture and related office services, has openings for ---*

FACILITIES ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
(Code : PDI-FAM)

- Must be a Licensed Engineer, not over 35 years old
- With at least 3 years relevant experience
- With proven ability in facilities management and building construction
- Mature, results-oriented and willing to put-in long hours

ASSISTANT SALES ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
(Code : PDI-ASAM)

- CPA, between 28- 33 years old
- With at least 3 years experience in the same capacity
- With knowledge of the principles and practices of modern accounting and finance administration
- Highly organized and can work effectively in a fast -paced environment

BOOKKEEPER (Code : PDI-BOOK)

- CPA, not over 26 years old
- With at least 2 years experience in the same capacity
- Patient, organized and detail-oriented
- Preferably living in Parañaque, Las Piñas, and nearby areas in Southern Luzon

PRODUCTION MANAGER (Code : PDI-PM)

- Graduate of ECE, EE, IE, or Computer Engineering
- Proficient in PC operation, male, between 28 to 35 years old
- At least 5 years experience as supervisor or manager from a manufacturing firm, preferably of office equipment
- With working knowledge in TQM/ JIT/ Good Housekeeping

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT SUPERVISOR
(Code : PDI-MMS)

- CPA, preferably not more than 28 years old
- With at least 3 years experience in inventory monitoring and control
- Can effectively assist in inventory control, systems analysis and improvement
- Preferably living in Parañaque, Las Piñas, and nearby areas in Southern Luzon

AUDITORS (Code : PDI-AUD)

- CPA, proficient in PC applications, not over 30 years old
- With at least three years relevant work experience
- Willing to do fieldwork and handle provincial assignments
- Preferably living in Parañaque, Las Piñas, and nearby areas in Southern Luzon

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumes and transcript of records to:
(POSITION CODE)
Recruitment and Training Group
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal Makati City
or E-mail us at ubxhrd@i-next.net

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An American Café and Restaurant Franchise is in need of service-oriented individuals to work as:

EXECUTIVE CHEF (Code : PDI-EC)

- Graduate of HRM or any related course
- With over 5- years experience in the preparation of International dishes
- Adept in menu planning. food costing, sanitation and housekeeping procedures
- Must be highly creative and possess leadership skills

CHIEF BAKER (Code : PDI-CB)

- College level or with specialized training in a baking institute
- Not over 35 years old
- With over 7 -years experience in the preparation and presentation of breads, cakes and pastries gained from reputable specialty bakeshop

COOKS (Code : PDI-COOK)

- College level or with equivalent culinary training
- Creative and systematic, not over 30 years old
- With at least 3- years experience in hot and cold kitchen operation

SERVERS (Code : PDI-SVR)

- College graduates, not over 28 years old
- Good-looking individuals with genuine concern for customers
- With relevant experience from a fine dining restaurant or a reputable bar and cafe.

SALES MANAGER- Restaurant Equipment
(Code : PDI-SMRE)

- College graduate, proficient in computer operation
- At least 3- years relevant experience in direct sales of restaurant and bakery equipment
- Must have excellent networking ability
- Personable, mature, with above average communication skills

BAKERY MANAGER (Code : PDI-BM)

- College graduate, not over 35 years old
- With proven skills in, forecasting, production planning and control
- Able to develop new lines of cakes, pastries, and other specialty bakeshop products
- Mature, highly creative and resourceful

CASHIERS (Code : PDI-CASH)

- College graduate, not over 28 years old
- Trustworthy and personable females
- With at least 2-year cashiering experience; able to handle multitask function in the restaurant

Qualified applicants are requested to apply in person
or send their resume with photo to:
Caffe Appassionato
c/o The Recruitment & Training Group
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal, Makati City
or E-mail us at : ubxhrd@i-next.net
(Please indicate the position code on the envelope')

JCA Systems Philippines

URGENT VACANCIES

UNIX / LINUX / C++ UNIX
- SOLID 3 years Expertise

JAVA Architecture/Dev.
- SOLID 4 years Expertise

ORACLE DBA/JAVA-ORACLE Dev.
- SOLID 3 years Expertise

C / C++ Developer
- SOLID 3 years Expertise

VB Basic GURU
- SOLID 5 years Expertise

Vfoxpro Developer
- Solid 3 years Expertise

COBOL
- SOLID 5 years Expertise

CORBA
- SOLID 3 Years Expertise

TANDEM / TAL / Base 24 / EFTPOS / Switching / COBOL
- SOLID 3 years Expertise

- You must have solid 5-8 years IT industry experience of which 3 years experience must be in the position applied for.
- You will have a high level of organizational, written and oral communication skills in the English language.

Send Curriculum Vitaé by email only to:

HR MANAGER
JCA Systems

Email: **jojo@jcappointments.com** or
jcappointments@xtra.co.nz

Yahoo Messenger: **surflink_1999@yahoo.com** on-line.

Pilipinas TeleServ, Inc.

is in urgent need of highly competent, service oriented and dynamic individuals for the position of :

Customer Care Officer

If you are:

- Male or female with a College degree
- Computer literate with good typing skills
- Fluent in English and Tagalog
- Willing to work in shifts
- Courteous and patient
- Good in communicating and has Phone Personality
- Excellent in Interpersonal relations and have Good Work Ethics

Field Service Officer

- Male with College degree
- Fluent in English and Tagalog
- Courteous and patient
- Good in communicating
- Presentable Appearance
- Excellent in Interpersonal relations and have Good Work Ethics

Then waste no time and send your comprehensive resume, latest 2x2 photo and transcript of records to Pilipinas TeleServ, Inc. Our office is located at the ***4th Floor, San Diego Bldg.,(beside SM Office), 462 Carlos Palanca St. (Formerly Echague), Quiapo, Manila (in front of La Tondeña)***
E-mail: julieann_ogayon@yahoo.com
Qualified applicants will be scheduled for interview. Competitive compensation / benefits package await successful applicants. We are a "direct hire" company.

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

We are looking for self-starter, team-oriented and knowledge-worker-type of individuals who want to join our organization. The following fields are open to qualified applicants:

Java Developers

Responsibility:

The successful candidate is responsible for the development and implementation of web-based applications. Responsibilities include the following:

- ✓ Tailor-fitting of software to suit user preferences
- ✓ Customization of program to suit customer requirements
- ✓ Development of new applications as necessary
- ✓ Upgrade of software applications
- ✓ Development and programming of (interface) utilities

Skill Requirements:

Proficiency in the following:

- ✓ Working knowledge of object-oriented development principles
- ✓ Understanding of at least one object-oriented analysis and design notation and paradigm such as UML (knowledge of Rational Rose modeling tool a plus)
- ✓ Proficiency in JAVA and/or C++
- ✓ Extensive experience with GUI programming on Windows 95/98/NT, HP UX, Solaris, AIX, SCO UNIX
- ✓ Proficiency and working experience in RDB programming methods and idioms for SQL (RDBMS such as Oracle, Informix)

Familiarity with standard protocols (TCP/IP, HTTP, FTP), CORBA and/or exposure to ERP packages (SAP, Oracle, JD Edwards, etc.) a plus. Candidate must also be willing to travel.

Salary will be in accordance with experience.

Interested candidates may send their resumé to:

MS. JOVIE SISION
Global Professional Services
GE Global Exchange Services
22nd Floor, Oledan Square
6788 Ayala Avenue
Makati City, Philippines 1200
Telephone: 886-7176
Fax: 886-7173
Email: Jovie.Sison@gxs.ge.com

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi

Manila Branch

A PREMIER JAPANESE BANK

is inviting you to be part of its continuous business expansion in the Philippines. Take this opportunity to build a career in an organization that values stability and security.

SENIOR TRADER

- ➪ Will report directly to the Chief Dealer and occassionally to the VP and Head of Treasury Front Office
- ➪ Will be responsible for Front Office commercial and interbank deals involving FX and/or MM transactions
- ➪ Must be a Certified FX and/or MM Trader and must have at least one (1) year experience in FX or MM trading

ACCOUNTING GRADUATES

- ➪ Graduates in 2000 and 2001 from reputable schools with above average scholastic records
- ➪ A CPA license is an advantage
- ➪ Experience is not required

Qualified applicants may send their curriculum vitaé and a covering letter through e-mail:

btm_hrd@philcom.com.ph

(Only shortlisted candidates will be notified. Previous applicants need not apply.)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

COLLEGE GRADUATES

- ☑ Female, single
- ☑ Not over 24 years old
- ☑ Graduates of a 4-year course
- ☑ Good comprehension skills
- ☑ With typing skills

Interested applicants may personally submit their cover letter, resumé, transcript of records and a recent 1x1 ID picture to:

DATASEARCH SERVICES INC.
MATEC Building
Buencamino Street (across Honda Alabang)
Alabang, Muntinlupa

Please call May at 842-1041 local 100 or Honey at 807-4433/36 local 231 for inquiries.

Our clients, world-class companies from various industries, invite highly qualified candidates for the following positions:

INVENTORY COST CONTROL MANAGER (a high-technology manufacturing company)

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR (a large service organization)
TRAINING DIRECTOR
MECHANICAL ENGINEER
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER
HR REPRESENTATIVE

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING MANAGER (garment manufacturer/exporter)
PRODUCTION MANAGER
QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER

CADD CONSULTANTS (Information Technology company)
I.T. ACCOUNT MANAGERS
HELPDESK ENGINEERS/CUSTOMER CARE ASSISTANTS

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS, FINANCE STAFF, STAFF AUDITOR
EXECUTIVE AND DEPARTMENT SECRETARIES, MARKETING ASSISTANT

PROJECT ASSISTANTS (INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS), STATISTICIAN
(a leading multinational consumer company)

Since these are urgent requirements, please submit resumé to:

CORPORATE EXECUTIVE SEARCH, INC.
Suite 1101 Medical Plaza Building
Amorsolo corner Dela Rosa Streets
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 750-6138 to 40
Fax No.: 751-7305
E-mail address: cesi@netasia.net

COME AND JOIN US!!!
As we elevate your career to the top!

We are an affiliate of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation of Japan, no. 1 in our industry and an ISO • 9001 certified company. We have vacancies for:

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The candidate shall be responsible for the direct supervision and control over the administrative requirements of the company. He is expected to systematize administrative functions and procedures. He must have extensive experience in the areas of general services, warehouse and inventory control, grounds and building maintenance, security and safety, and purchasing.

The ideal applicant must be a graduate of any course in business or engineering, preferably with MBA units. He must have at least five (5) years supervisory experience from a medium-to-large scale business entity. He must have hands-on capability in M.S. Office and holder of a driver's license.

SECRETARY

The candidate must be female, not more than 28 years old, preferably residing near Ortigas, She should be a graduate of any four (4)-year course. She must be proficient in MS Office, conversant in both Tagalog and English and possesses a pleasant personality.

HR ASSISTANT

S/he should be between 20-24 years old, graduate of Human Resource Management, Psychology or any behavioral science course. Must be computer literate, preferably has one (1) year relevant work experience and possesses a pleasant personality.

The successful applicants for above positions can expect a competitive compensation package. Interested parties should apply with credentials and photo personally or by mail post-marked not later than **May 5, 2001** to:

International Elevator & Equipment, Inc.
Km. 23 West Service Road, South Super Highway Cupang, Muntinlupa City
(Between Sucat and Alabang Interchange, near Alabang Hills Village)
Tel. # 8423161 to 64
Fax # 8423160 / 8093706

GENETIC Computer
I·N·S·T·I·T·U·T·E

▶▶ For Immediate Hiring

Due to its continuous expansion program, the leading educational provider with presence in 34 countries, is urgently in need of highly motivated and experienced professional for the position of:

FRANCHISE SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

If you are:

- *Male / Female with pleasing personality and excellent communication skills*
- *Between 25 to 35 years old*
- *With at least 2 years Marketing & Sales Experience*
- *With at least 2 years Managerial Experience*
- *A team player, aggressive, articulate, self-motivated and result-oriented*
- *Experienced in the Computer Training / Education Industry and/or operations*

And you can:

- *Market and sell school franchise licenses*
- *Be responsible for conceptualization, implementation and monitoring of marketing strategies and plans for the organization*
- *Be responsible for roadshows, events, advertising and other marketing and promotions-related activities*
- ***Enjoy doing the above-mentioned tasks while working***

THEN YOU ARE JUST EXACTLY WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR!

Please apply in person with resume, recent 2X2 ID photo and a copy of transcript of records from Monday to Friday between 8:30 to 11:30 am at the address below:
2nd Floor Unit 207, Seneca Plaza,
1152 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., New Manila, Q.C.
E-mail: principal@genetic.com.ph
www.genetic.com.ph

PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

URGENTLY NEEDED!

EXPERT AUTOCAD OPERATOR

in Release 14

The ideal candidate must possess the following:

* Architectural graduate; pref. 27-35 years old
* Minimum of 3 years work experience with AutoCad
* Must be a high-caliber CAD Operator and has the
* Expertise in the use of AutoCAD Release 14

* We are offering an attractive compensation package to the qualified applicant.

This is an URGENT requirement. Please apply personally with your resumé and references to:

THE RECRUITMENT MANAGER
80-82 Roces Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail: ebmuscat@ramcar.com

**Previous applicants need not apply.*

Would you make the cut?

bench/

Bench, the country's biggest name in fashion retail, is opening its own Bench Beauty Salon soon. And you may just be a part of it! We are looking for the country's best beauty and hair experts to join us.

Salon Hairstylists and Make-up Artists

- Male or female
- Must have experience working in a salon
- Must know how to cut, style, color, perm, and straighten hair
- Must know the art of make-up application

Managers

- Male or female
- Must be a college graduate
- Must have pleasing personality
- Must be service-oriented
- Must be fluent in English, Tagalog

Salon Juniors

- Male or female
- Must have experience working in a salon
- Must have knowledge in styling, coloring, perming and straightening hair
- Must know the process of manicure and pedicure

Salon Trainees

- Male or female
- With or without salon experience
- Must be willing to learn/ apprentice

Successful applicants will enjoy the following benefits:

➢ Good compensation.
➢ A chance to work with one of the most prestigious companies in the country.
➢ Training under renowned hair and makeup experts Alex Carbonell and Juan Sarte III.
➢ A chance to train abroad.

See if you can make the cut!
Fax, e-mail or handcarry your resumes with 2x2 picture at:

Suyen Corporation
593 Tolentino Street, Santa Clara
Pasay City, Metro Manila 1304
Tel #: 8872311/ 8943822
Fax #: 8448150/ 8943983
e-mail address: personnel@benchtm.com

ASIAN TERMINALS INCORPORATED

Publicly listed **Asian Terminals, Incorporated (ATI)** operates the Philippines largest international marine ports. **South Harbor** in Port of Manila; **Port of Batangas** cargo and passenger terminals, **Port of General Santos City** through a joint venture company; **Mariveles Grain Terminal**, the country's most modern bulk grains handler. It has also diversified into commercial logistics, providing supply chain solutions to major companies in the Calabarzon economic zone.
ATI further broadens its expertise through a close working relationship with P&O Ports, a core business of the **P&O Group** which is one of the most experienced and respected maritime service companies in the world. Together, ATI and P&O Ports assure a consistent quality of management and client service.
In support of the ongoing modernization program for South Harbor-Manila's premier port-the company seeks to hire:

VESSEL PLANNERS

For assignment in the Container Division, the candidate will be exposed in the highly IT-driven environment of the South Harbor terminal. Responsibilities will include: close liaison with shipping line clients and other ATI divisions; ascertaining complete and meeting productivity targets, loading/unloading and departure schedules.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Engineering/Computer Science/IT course;
- At least 2 years experience in an IT-driven operations
- Dynamic and hardworking, with good communication and planning skills

*If you're up to the challenge in one of the fastest-growing service sectors, send your application letter, resumé, 2x2 photo and transcript of records on or before **May 11, 2001** to:*

The Human Resources Department Asian Terminals,
Incorporated South Harbor, Port Area, Manila
e-mail: JConer@asianterminals.com.ph

GLOBAL SALES LINK CORPORATION

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

INVESTMENT RESEARCHER / WRITER

- Job entails sourcing investment related article, research on the Internet
- Journalism background preferred
- Proficient in MS Office, and Internet research / search engine
- Good copy editing & English grammar skills
- Commerce Graduate is an advantage
- Excellent verbal and written English
- Monthly salary range of Php 8,500 - Php 14,000 depending on qualifications

Address: 8th Flr. Global Bank Center Bldg
(formerly SolidBank)
777 Paseo de Roxas St
Makati City
E-mail: hrd@gsl.com.ph
Subject: Application Position

Apply personally or you may send your application to
GLOBAL SALES LINK CORPORATION

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

3 Accounting Clerks

Qualifications

- Accounting graduate
- 21-28 years old, single, hardworking
- Computer literate

Please apply in person between 9:00 AM -- 5:00 PM Monday-Friday, bring your resumé with recent 2x2 photo and transcript of records if available to:

Signature Brands Corporation
#256 Doña Soledad Extension Avenue
Better Living Subdivision
Parañaque City

Telephone Nos.: 824-0924; 776-8211;
776-0278

Fax No.: 824-0976; 776-8212

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JOBMarket ONLINE

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an established computer reselling firm challenges you to give the best you've got as we seek highly qualified individuals for the following positions:

A. CORPORATE SALES MANAGER(ORTIGAS)

- Must come from an exisiting reputable IT Company with at least 3 years experience in the same field
- Able to produce at least Php3.5M monthly individual quota
- Consistently meet monthly group sales quota
- Able to assemble, motivate and lead the corporate Sales Force effectively

B. TECHNICAL MANAGER(QC)

- Male/Female, 30 yrs. old & above
- At least 3 yrs. experience in supervisory level position, related to computer service oriented work
- Must have extensive knowledge and experience in computer hardware such as hubs, routers, switches, servers, workstations and notebook computers.
- Must have extensive knowledge and experience in Novell, Microsoft Exchange, SQL servers, Win2000
- Able to lead the technical team to meet the company's expectations

C. ACCOUNT MANAGERS(ORTIGAS)

- Graduate of any 4-yr. course from a reputable school (De La Salle, Ateneo, UST, UP) - New graduates are welcome to apply
- With 2 years experience in marketing IT hardware products
- With excellent PR and communication skills; can handle client presentations

Qualified applicants can send their comprehensive resumes with 2x2 ID pictures starting Monday, 30 April 2001 at:

2009 Jollibee Plaza
Emerald Avenue,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Twinhead
The Notebook Specialist

MALAYAN INSURANCE COMPANY, INC.
The No. 1 Non-Life Insurance Company in the Philippines

is in need of a

LAWYER

- Male/Female, not over 30 years old
- Member of good standing of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines
- Graduate from a reputable Law School
- Willing to start a career in litigation
- With or without experience

You may send your application letter, comprehensive resumé with recent 2" x 2" picture and transcript of records to:

THE PERSONNEL OFFICER
Human Resources Department
Malayan Insurance Company, Inc.
5th Floor, Yuchengco Building
484 Quintin Paredes St., Binondo, Manila
E-mail: **malayan@malayan.com**
Website: **http://www.malayan.com**

McGraw-Hill Education

McGraw-Hill Book Co., the global leader in professional publishing for business, government, industry and medical markets invites suitable candidates for the following positions:

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

The above position will report to the Regional Manager. The successful candidate will be responsible for the marketing and promotion of higher education, school and professional titles.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Business or Business-related graduates with minimum 2 years of selling/marketing experience in Information Technology or Information Communication Technology (either hardware or software) in Manila area
- Fluent in English with good oral and written skills
- Proficient in MS Office
- Has initiative and able to work under minimum supervision
- Aggressive and able to work under pressure
- Highly motivated, self-starter and a team player
- Ability and flexibility required to work hours to suit operational requirements
- With valid driver's license
- Benefits package includes car plan

OFFICE MANAGER

The above position will be responsible for office administration, credit control and financial management in the Philippine office. Primary responsibility will be to provide:

- financial analysis, budgeting and forecasting
- credit control and manage credit risk
- financial reporting in compliance with the local statutory requirements and corporate standard
- resolving customer disputes
- monitoring of business process improvement and productivity enhancements

QUALIFICATIONS

- CPA with excellent computer proficiency
- minimum 3 years working experience in financial reporting and credit control working in managerial capacity
- business-oriented and driven for results with an ethical attitude
- with ability to communicate at all levels

To the successful candidates, we offer an attractive remuneration and benefits package including training, overseas conference trips and opportunities to grow with the company.

All applicants will be treated in strict confidence. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified. Please submit your resumé with recent colored photo along with your salary history and expectation before May 10, 2001 to:

The Regional Manager
McGraw-Hill IEI (Phils.)
Unit 1503 Jollibee Plaza Condominium
Emerald Avenue corner Ruby Street
Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail: mghphils@mcgraw-hill.com.ph
Website: www.mcgraw-hill.com

Please do not hand-carry your application. Walk-in applicants will not be entertained

---

WANTED

TWO (2) DIVISION SALES MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS:

❶ Experience in real estate sales management
❷ On full-time
❸ A working knowledge in Tagaytay properties investment
❹ Age range: 30 to 40 years old

SALARY/BENEFITS:

❶ Basic Pay
❷ Division Sales Commission
❸ Monthly Transportation Allowance
❹ Sales Bonuses/Incentives
❺ Car Plan

Please report with complete resumé, Monday-Wednesday-Thursday (April 30, May 2 - May 3 AM ONLY)

DON TIM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
#5438 Pres. Osmeña Highway, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 843-7771 to 75; 844-7743

Make a career choice online. Visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

SCAD SERVICES (S) PTE., LTD.

Block 23, Phase IV, Philippine Economic Zone Authority,
Rosario, Cavite

If you're a dynamic, hardworking individual and possess the qualities we are looking for, then apply now and be a part of one of the largest wood manufacturing company in Asia.

COMPANY NURSE

- ☐ Female, 21-27 years of age
- ☐ Must be a Registered Nurse
- ☐ With at least 6 months experience
- ☐ Willing to work on a shifting schedule or do overtime work
- ☐ Can handle people and situations well
- ☐ Computer literate

COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS/MIS STAFF

- ☐ Male or Female, ages 21 up to 29
- ☐ Computer Science Graduate
- ☐ Knowledgeable in Visual Basic, SQL and troubleshooting

You can mail or hand carry your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the above address. For inquiries, call telephone no. **(046) 437-2486** or **437-0849**. Look for Ghen or you can e-mail your resumé at **ghen_ferma@yahoo.com**.

ATTENTION FRESH GRADUATES & JOB SEEKERS!

TRAIN WITH US & BE HIRED!

JOIN OUR TEAM BUILDING & LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

Looking for the right job is not very easy. It takes a lot of guts, patience, and confidence to land a job that in the end, you might not even really like. Enjoying your work and loving what you do is almost always the key to a happy and rewarding career.

Our group travels a lot, produces shows, conceptualizes events, manages exhibits, organizes parties, reunions and life's important occasions.

We enjoy our work...
We celebrate LIFE!

If you have the zest for LIFE, then JOIN US NOW!

C & C Creative Concepts Co.
YOUR TOTAL EVENTS PARTNER

We are looking for young & dynamic people willing to be trained & become members of our TEAM:

- ☐ **Project Officers/ Account Managers**
- ☐ **In-house Event Specialists**
- ☐ **Regional Coordinators**
- ☐ **Group Party Organizers**

- Training Program will be on May 10, 11, & 12, 2001
- A rewarding career with travel opportunities await successful trainees.
- Registration should be made personally on **April 30, 2001, 10:00AM – 5:00PM at**
Unit C, 17 Sct. Ybardolaza cor. Sct. de Guia, Diliman, Quezon City (near Sacred Heart Parish)
Tel. Nos: 4167830, 4167864 or 65 / 3719049

We are growing International MLM company marketing high quality consumable products. We are sourcing applicants for the position of:

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANT

The candidate should have good people relation skills. Efficient, self-motivated young woman with bright personality who enjoys challenges and is willing to accept increasing responsibilities. Future prospect are excellent.

Help us grow... and grow with us!

Please send your application letter and resumé with references and contact number to:

CUSTOMER SERVICE
P.O. BOX 1846
Makati Central Post Office
1258 Makati City
or fax to: (02) 810-6352

STRADCOM

STRADCOM Corporation is an Information Technology company providing quality IT infrastructure services for the Filipino people. We aim to provide world class IT services to the public as a step toward economic & social dev't.

BUSINESS ANALYST / SYSTEMS ANALYST - Graduate of any business / computer course preferably Industrial Eng'g. At least 2 years experience in business process analysis, re-engineering & systems design, development & implementation.

QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST - Bachelor's degree in any business / Engineering Knowledge in software QA planning, Test Plan Formulation & Implementation. With experience in various QA test of applications such as functionality, performance, stress, reliability, regression testing using automated QA test tool & knowledgeable in basic programming.

HELPDESK SUPERVISOR - Graduate of any 4-5 years technical course preferably Science or Engineering. At least 3-5 years Helpdesk/User Support experience, 2 years of which is in a supervisory / managerial capacity, with good comm. skills.

SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER - Graduate of any business or computer related course preferably computer science from a reputable school. With 4-5 years of experience in software development, system design & data warehousing & GIS.

OTHER AVAILABLE POSITONS

- * SYSTEMS SEC. ADMIN.
- * SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR
- * DATABASE ADMIN.
- * APPLICATION SPECIALIST
- * HELPDESK SPECIALISTS
- * WEB DEVELOPER/DESIGNER
- * TRAINING COORDINATOR
- * PURCHASING ASST.
- * EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
- * BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR

INTERESTED APPLICANTS may send their resumé with 2x2 picture by mail or fax to:

HRD Department, SMC Building,
LTO Compound, East Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail: stradcom.info.com.ph Fax Nos 927-1934/927-4872

TV PRODUCTION COMPANY IS IN NEED OF:

CREATIVE WRITERS

- graduates of UP, Ateneo, Miriam College
- willing to work long hours

TALENT COORDINATOR

- college graduate, preferably with experience

MUSIC RESEARCHER

- college graduate, musically inclined, preferably with experience

SEGMENT PRODUCERS & PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

- college graduate from UP, UST and other reputable schools
- hardworking and willing to work long hours

ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK

- female, college graduate
- computer literate

SEND BIO-DATA TO:

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT.
79 Xavierville Ave., Loyola Heights, Q.C.
QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE CALLED OR SENT TELEGRAMS FOR INTERVIEW DATE

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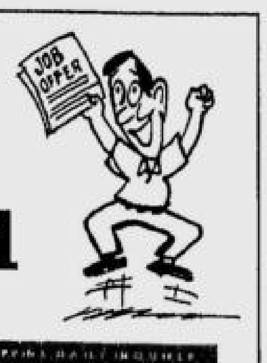

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MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2001
6-7 PM & 8-9 PM

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FAX# 001-216-445-5090	(res.) Tel# 712-2835 (after 5 p.m.)
E-MAIL: cloughl@ccf.org	Mobile Phone# 0919-5833534

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE NUMBER
Date Of Birth (DOB)
NURSING LICENSE NUMBER AND OR GSIS
Hosted by the Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A.

RISE Responsible Investments for Solidarity & Empowerment
A Microfinance Company

RISE is a microfinance company providing loan capital to microfinance institutions employing the Grameen Bank Methodology. We are currently in need of a highly qualified individual for the position of:

ACCOUNTANT

The position will be responsible for recording the company's financial transactions, preparing monthly financial statements, and other management requirements. He/she will assist in the development of RISE financial and accounting systems, policies and procedures. The Accountant will also provide accounting and bookkeeping services to the Microfinance Alliance Fund (MAF), a partner of RISE.

Qualifications

- Degree in Accountancy, preferably CPA with at least 2 years experience in a bank or microfinance institution.
- Can deal with people from government, non-government and Church-based organizations and community groups.
- Excellent oral and written English communication skills; computer literate in MS Word and Excel.
- Able to travel to remote areas and work independently with minimum supervision.

Interested applicants must submit an application letter, comprehensive resume with personal references via e-mail or postal system before May 21, 2001 to:

THE GENERAL MANAGER
RISE Financing Company
CBCP Bldg., 470 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, 1002 Manila
e-mail: gaanit@crs-org.ph

(Only short-listed applicants will be notified)

We are in need of a **DESIGNER!!!!**

- Graduate of Industrial Design and/or Visual Design
- 25 to 35 years old
- With 2 to 3 years experience in handicrafts/metal/tin production in the manufacturing sector
- Must be dynamic, team player and can work under pressure
- Willing to work on extended hours and to travel to remote areas outside Manila

Please send us your artist's profile addressed to the Executive Director through e-mail at safrudi@skyinet.net or by post at 2594 Lamayan Street, Sta. Ana, Manila not later than 10 May 2001.

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You will be responsible for the effective completion of marketing projects and the implementation of various sales and collateral material. You must have marketing experience of five years preferably gained in an online environment. A university degree, good communication skills and computer literacy are essential qualifications.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
online: career.globalsources.com
e-mail: asmhr@globalsources.com
fax: (632) 892-4087
post: P.O. Box 4597, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com

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Vice President, MLM Corporate Sales
P.O. Box 1846
Makati Central Post Office
1258 Makati City
or fax to: (02) 810-6352

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A fast growing ad agency is in need of people to fill in the following positions

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With excellent communication skills

Graphic Artists

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Account Officers

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With an extensive network of potential clients

Experience from a big ad agency is a plus.

Please send your résumé, transcript of records and a 2 x 2 photo to:
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Herrera cor. Valero Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City

Previous applicants need not apply.

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APPLY AT:
Suite 2104 21st Floor PS Bank Tower
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City

WE NEED:
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- Fluent in English or Chinese
- With pleasing personality

WE OFFER:
- **STARTING INCOME OF P 18,000.00**
- Local & International company sponsored trips
- Comprehensive training at company's expense
- Plus other benefits

Come in **PROPER BUSINESS ATTIRE** and bring two (2) passport-sized pictures, complete resumé/bio-data and valid ID on Monday to Thursday (April 30, May 1, 2 & 3) from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (May 1, 2001 OPEN FOR APPLICATION)

Great jobs @ penshoppe®

VISUAL MERCHANDISING & STORE DESIGN MANAGER

THE POSITION:
- Responsible for conceptualizing developing, sourcing and implementing exciting visual display and store design ideas

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Graduates of Architecture or Interior Design
- Strong organizational and leadership skills
- Excellent in visual, written, oral and electronic presentation and communication skills
- With basic knowledge of space planning and interior design
- Must be able to successfully operate in a fast-paced changing environment working on multiple projects
- Job requires frequent domestic and foreign travel

VISUAL DISPLAY ARTISTS

THE POSITION:
- Responsible for implementing window displays and visual display standards

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Fresh graduates of Fine Arts or Interior Design
- Excellent visual presentation and communication skills
- Creative, resourceful and result-oriented
- Can operate in a multi-task work atmosphere
- Must have no travel nor overtime work restrictions

ARTISTS/ILLUSTRATORS

THE POSITION:
- Responsible for conceiving and developing creative product designs appropriate for Penshoppe brand

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Highly creative with a great sense of style
- Excels in drawing, painting and sketching
- Can relate fashion, music, movie and the arts to great product design
- General PC/MAC graphic software skills required
- Fresh graduates of Fine Arts are welcome

STORE MANAGERS/ MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

(Tuguegarao, Dagupan, Manila, Quezon City, Urdaneta, Batangas, Cabanatuan)

THE POSITION:
- Responsible for the achievement of sales target

QUALIFICATIONS:
- 21-28 years old
- Graduates of business, economics or related courses
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills
- Proven skills in managing and developing people
- Trustworthy, aggressive and results-oriented
- Experience in retail and consumer products a plus

COMPANY NURSE/ FRONT DESK STAFF

THE POSITION:
- Responsible for manning the reception area, receiving incoming/outgoing calls and other related administrative functions

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Graduates of BS Nursing
- Personable with effective communication skills
- Can carry out instructions very well
- Highly motivated and organized

Qualified applicants may submit their application letter, resumé and 2x2 colored photo to:

The Personnel Manager,
Penshoppe
(Manila) 62 Old Samson Road,
Balintawak, Quezon City,
(Cebu) 880 A.S. Fortuna St., Banilad,
Mandaue City, Cebu,
Philippines
or e-mail us at:
hrd@penshoppe.com

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www.penshoppe.com

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Successful applicants can expect high remuneration package including commissions as well as liberal company fringe benefits.

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7/F Singapore Airlines Bldg., 138 H.V. dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

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You may apply in person from
Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
at

JAGUAR CARS, INC.
ENZO Bldg., G/F 399 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City
Tel. No. 897-8888 Fax. 895-2677

We are Looking for Dynamic Individuals.

Are you into **Cellphones and Especially Customer Care?**
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ABC STORE, INC. is one of the Philippines' premier Cellular Phone Dealers. Mainly engaged in the wholesale and retail of Cellular Phones, ABC STORE, INC. aims to provide the public the best service any cellular phone retailer and wholesaler can provide.

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4 (Wholesale Transactions)
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(Technical Services)
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G/F Pearl Lane, Virramall, Greenhills
7275014 Please Look for
Josie or Jasmin
or Fax your Resumé via 7275015.

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QUALIFICATIONS
- Male
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- must be a licensed first class radiotelephone operator
- fluent in Tagalog and English
- at least 2 yrs work experience on AM, FM and/or TV
- Easy to get along with
- Computer literate (Win Word, Excel)*
- W/ Driver's license *

Interested applicants may send their RESUME with recent 2x2 photo to:

CORPORATE SERVICES-HR
8TH F, JACINTA BLDG II,
EDSA GUAD. MAKATI, CITY

We will only respond to qualified applicants

* an advantage

CROSSINGS
DEPARTMENT STORE

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT:

1. **ACCOUNTANT** - Female; 30 to 35 years old; single. Certified Public Accountant preferably with audit experience. At least 3 years experience in all accounting functions including inventory management, financial analysis and tax matters. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Can relate to all levels in management.
2. **JUNIOR AUDITOR** - Female; single; 28 to 30 years old. With at least 2 to 3 years experience in audit preferably gained in retailing industry. Keen on details and systematic. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Can relate to all levels in management.
3. **DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR** - Female; single; not more than 30 years old. College graduate with at least 2 to 3 years experience as Department Supervisor in a department store. Aggressive and articulate.
4. **ACCOUNTING CLERKS** - Female; single; 22 to 25 years old. Accounting graduate with at least 6 months experience in accounting functions. Must be systematic and organized.
5. **PERSONNEL CLERK** - Female; single; a graduate of any behavioral science course from reputable schools. Preferably with experience in SSS, Philhealth and PAG-IBIG. Must be computer literate
6. **ELECTRICIAN** - Male; 25 to 30 years old. College or trade vocational school graduate, with at least 2 years experience as Building Electrician.
7. **INVENTORY CLERK** - Female; single; college graduate preferably with experience as Inventory Clerk in a department store. Must be computer literate
8. **TELEPHONE OPERATOR** - Female; single; college graduate with pleasing personality. Preferably with experience as Telephone Operator
9. **CASHIERS** - Female; single; 20-25 years old; at least 5'2" in height. College level with at least 2 to 3 years experience as Cashier in a department store. Honest and trustworthy.
10. **SALESCLERKS** - Female; single; 18 to 25 years old; at least 5'2" in height. College level with pleasing personality. Preferably with experience as Salesclerk in a department store
11. **STOCKMAN** - Male; single; 20-25 years old; at least college level. Experience as Stockman in a department store is a must.

Qualified applicants may send their resumé or apply in person at:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
CROSSINGS DEPARTMENT STORE
Phase 2 Shangri-La Plaza Mall
EDSA cor. Shaw Blvd.
Mandaluyong City

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
CROSSINGS DEPARTMENT STORE
2nd Floor Team Pacific Bldg.
13 Jose Cruz cor. Legaspi Sts.
Bo. Ugong, Pasig City

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

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Male or Female, 21 to 29 years old; With at least 6 months experience preferably gained in a hospital or HMO setting; Must have a pleasing personality and computer literate.

BILLING CLERK

Male/Female, 21 to 29 years old; Graduate of any four (4) year business course; Computer literate; Must have above average communication skills.

ACCOUNTING GRADUATES

Female, 21 to 30; Preferably with experience in handling of claims; Can work with minimum supervision and willing to work long hours; Knowledgeable in Windows based application; Willing to be assigned as Claims Processor.

Interested applicant may submit their resumé, 2x2 picture, transcript of records to:

Human Resources Department
MEDICard Philippines, Inc.
8/F Sagittarius Bldg.
H.V. Dela Costa Street,
Salcedo Village, Makati City
E-mail: rsalmon@medicardphils.com

Rx MEDICard

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Barangay Fire Brigade

FIRE TRUCK DRIVERS AND FIRE FIGHTERS/ RESCUERS

You want to help save lives and protect property? Here's your chance. If you possess the following qualifications and you think you have what it takes to become a member of this Fire Brigade, join us.

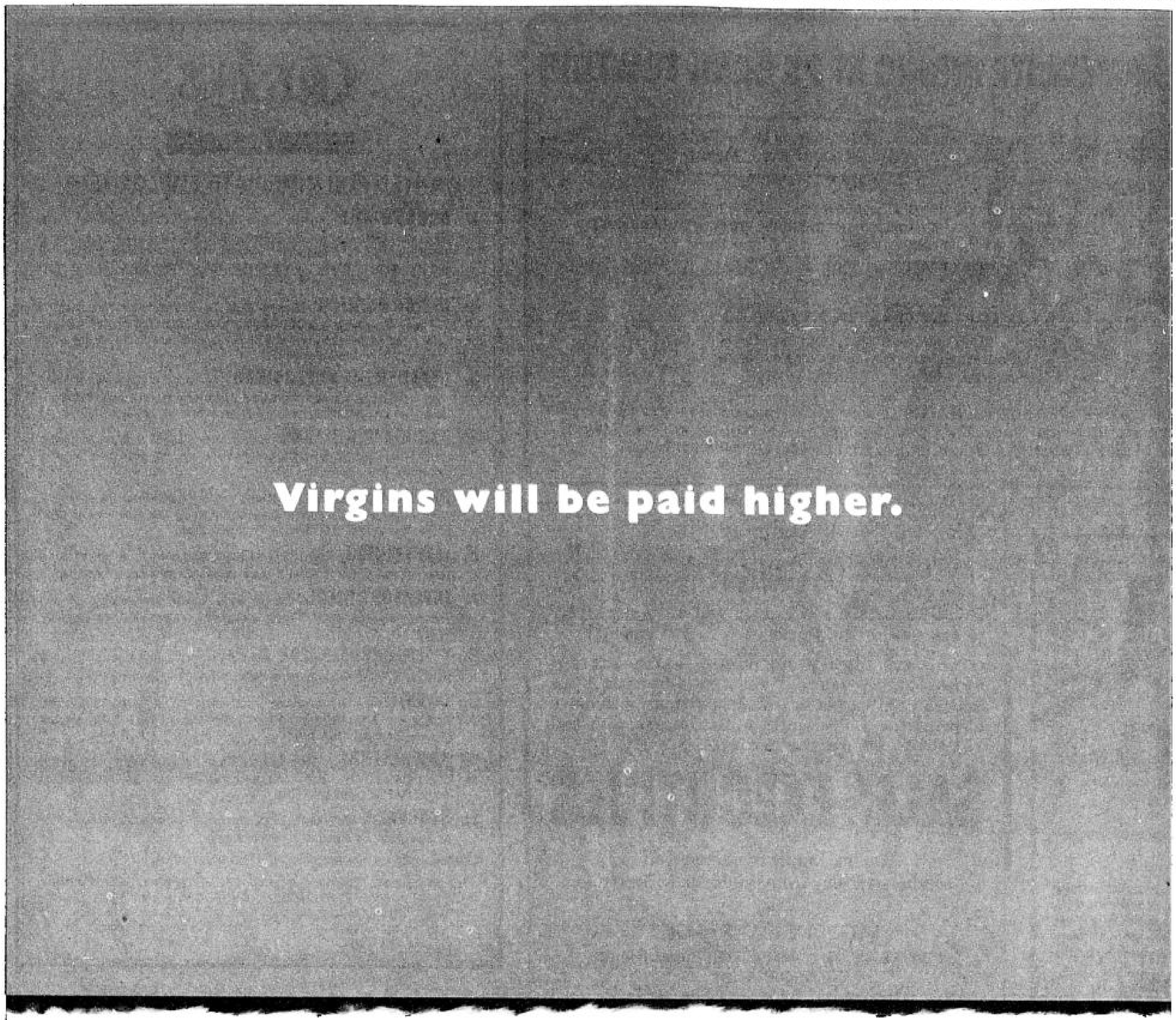
Qualifications:
1. Male
2. 21-30 years old
3. Preferably resident of Mandaluyong City
4. College graduate
5. At least 5'4" in height
6. Physically fit and must pass the following examinations:
   a. Medical
   b. Physical (4 km run with 30 kg load, 40 push-ups, 9 pull-ups, 41 sit-ups, and 6-feet standing long jump)
7. Must have a professional driver's license. (Not mandatory for Fire Fighters/ Rescuers)
8. No derogatory record
9. Must have good moral character with letters of endorsement from the following:
   a. One of your college professors
   b. Prominent member of your community
   c. Parish Priest / Minister
10. Does not smoke and is not a heavy drinker

Secure an application form at:

Barangay Wack-Wack Greenhills East
Rm. 9, 2/F Anglo Building, 715-A Shaw Boulevard,
Mandaluyong City

Contact Info:
Contact Persons: Bhart Unlayao or Rosas Du
Tel. 718-1925, 723-3165 Cellphone: 0917-2091425, 0917-3365258
E-mail: trevayne@skyinet.net, rosasdu@mosart.org

GENERAL



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www.jobmarketonline.com

WANTED

TELEMARKETERS

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

- Excellent communication skills in English
- Related work experience is an advantage
- Good public relations
- College graduate / Female
- Willing to work on shifting schedule and render overtime work

Apply personally or you may send your application to
GLOBAL SALES LINK CORPORATION

Address: 8th Flr. GlobalBank Center Bldg
(formerly Solid Bank)
777 Paseo de Roxas St.
Makati City
E-mail: hrd@gsl.com.ph
Subject: Application Position

Do you like Sun, Fun, and Earning Huge Pay Checks!!!

Are you looking for a Challenging, Exciting, and Rewarding Career, with an International Leaders in its field, which offers unlimited growth both locally and abroad! Look No further!

We are currently employing highly motivated, energetic, enthusiastic, individual to fulfill this posts of **Sales Executives**.

Above Average remuneration offered. Great working environment, with a young dynamic team. If you feel, you represent the type of qualities that a professional organization would require, then please phone, **Adam Walker**, to arrange to a confidential interview.

Telephone: 817-4780
Between 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Please no chancers even consider applying.

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Dynamic Marketing and Exhibition Personnel

We are looking for you who's
- Outgoing
- Well spoken in English and Tagalog
- Pleasant telephone mannerism
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We provide you with:
- High compensation package
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If you want to be a part of a
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Come over and join US!

Please bring resumé to

104 H.V. Dela Costa St.,
Ground Floor Liberty Center
Salcedo Village, Makati
Attention: Angela

SUNDAY
INQUIRER
MAGAZINE

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

April 29, 2001
Volume 14 No. 8

Word Up

with The Radioactive Sago Project

SUMMER READING ISSUE

CONTENTS

Features

Beach Blanket Bibliography *by SIM Staff and Contributors* 3
Longing for some sun and the perfect book to take with you? SIM helps you out by reviewing the newest local and foreign releases just in time for any out-of-town sunbathing expedition or even a lazy afternoon at home. Whether curled up in bed or laid out on the sand, here are the books to complete your summer book loving

Cover Story
Words and Music *by Eric S. Caruncho* 10
Take a walk on the really wild side with Philippine music's most unconventional band, dead set on a vigorous audio journey that goes beyond mere novelty or profit-making

Regulars

Poetry *by Ricardo M. de Ungria; Romulo P. Baquiran Jr.* 2

The Candidates Noli de Castro, Ernesto Herrera, Ramon Magsaysay Jr. and Manny Villar; Coalition 349; Philippine Association of Retired Persons; Partido ng Manggagawa *by SIM Staff and Contributors* 11

End Page It's A Material World *by Jonathan Best* 14

This Week 15

Pinoy Nga! *Butas sa Tenga by Jess Abrera* 15

Afternoon with Young Writer and a Cup of Coffee

The trick is, yes, read more, do newswork more,
paint, travel, or find something other than
all the time playing sensitive and crazed
and chopping down all of it into
verses only. The "viciousness" you felt
aimed at you after your award is real.
What is more is, there's more: malice, envy,
greed, intrigue, trickery, pretension, fraud,
grievance, back talk, cheek, expedience, ill will—
theirs and yours—are what you'll swim in henceforth, fish!'
These swirl, subside, then surge back with meaner hearts,
the push and pull of it more criminal,
sweeter, more secret, shit-deep in fellowship sham.
True company is rare and must be kept
raw with drink, distance, a few fangs, and scandals.
What you aim for's not for wimps.
And the worth of it? Who knows? That's your call.
Short of murder, you'll make the grade, cut
your name in clouds, break hearts, and not explain.
That's why, when asked, I really say: Don't, boy!
Drop the pen. Quit! Scrub floors! Play drums! Fuck stones!
Always they think it's a joke. What can I do?
For me now I think of it as a bone
in the throat of the pleasure principle.
No sense storming the world—I'll only hurt birds.
When I get down to it, I get down to it.
What you're going through feels like no hole yet.
If you grow and write better, it will squeeze
tight as ass, all air under your feet, head
on rails of light rushing beyond shadows and feelings
you'd feel yourself singled out, alone among the chosen.
Could be worth a song. But when not singing
you're no singer. Ease up, and move
out of that knot of unearthly light.
Sometimes the page pushes us aside and
life takes us on, takes it out on us, and
works us up until it blinks and we pin it down
with words and drink. Then we play music,
seek out sex, or someone to talk to. Then to bed.
Should I also tell you: Be always torn
apart, your foot in heaven and your hand
on a grill of hell! Be always in love,
which is the same thing. No words of wisdom
these. Shut your ears, if you like. Smirk inside.
Pump up your CD player's volume.
You're not you, and someone's making us up
here, now. Nothing that's happening here now
is taking place anywhere around us.
Always a problem. We stop, but we go on.
We feel ahead, but are left behind.
Sometimes it's a beach. Often it's all cold book.
You must find your way back to the real world.
It is always new, and not always true.

Ricardo M. de Ungria

Isang Gabi

Lumisan sa iyong silid
Habang nagsasabato ang mga talampakan.
Nasa itaas ang mga bituin
Ginising ang kislap ng tadyang.
Walang alunignig ang mga hakbang
Sa pagdaraan sa tabi ng kapilya
at mga dormitoryong idlip.
Kanina lamang
Sapo ko ang iyong noo
Ngunit hindi naarok ng isip.
Ikaw ang nakitang ngumiti noon
Kasama ang sabi'y di iniibig.
Di mapaknit na pagtataka
Ang lumaki sa muni.
Nalusaw ang daang nakatutok sa buwan,
Sumuot ang hamog
At tumiim ang bulalakaw
Sa mga mata.

Romulo P. Baquiran Jr.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine is accepting contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed a copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

Cover Story, page 10

The Cover Image Frontman Lourd de Veyra (foreground) and The Radioactive Sago Project have rewritten the book on getting an album released. Join them in savoring the delight of books in SIM's Summer Reading Issue *Photograph by Val Handumon*

Sunday Inquirer Magazine April 29, 2001
Vol. 14 No. 8 ISSN 0116 - 232X

Editor in Chief	Alya B. Honasan
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THE SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number 897-8808, locals 317 and 318. Mailing address: PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines. E-mail: sim@inquirer.com.ph

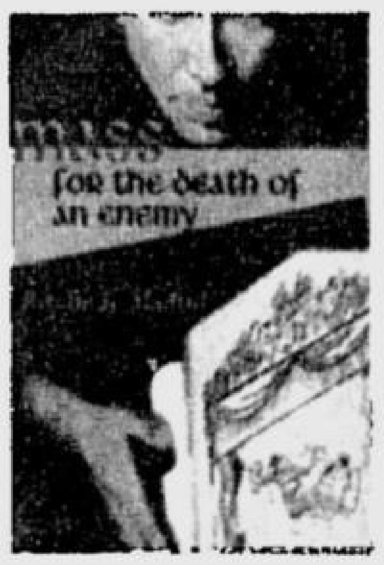
By SIM Staff

Nothing beats the effect of summer sunlight on the page as one takes it easy on a pristine white-sand beach. Together with SPF 15 sunblock and bottled water, the right books help make summer complete. With this annual Summer Reading Issue, SIM offers a spread of the newest local and foreign releases you can bring along on your summer sojourns.

Beach Blanket Bibliography

Philippine Publications

Fiction:



"Mass for the Death of an Enemy" *by Renato E. Madrid (Ateneo de Manila University Press)*
Filipino gothic at its small-town, ceremonious best. The foibles and follies of the residents of Carcar – the intrigues and indiscretions, the powerful *padres* and political rivals, the obsession with what other people might say and think – find a perfect metaphor in a staged *zarzuela*. The novel's characters are just as numerous, dramatic and hung-up, although the ending revelations come from a seemingly unlikely spokesperson. It is rightly described as a "black comedy," as Madrid writes like a bemused observer, in an almost courtly style that pokes subtle fun at his own people; one character "held a giant leaf of the taro plant over herself like a parasol of incredibly modern design." He creates a world so consistent and whole in its texture and tone that there's a glossary of Spanish terms to help readers understand it! **ABH**

Non-fiction:

"Babaeng Palaban" *by Margarita Go Singco-Holmes (Anvil)*
Is it possible to write about sex in Pilipino without sounding vulgar? One tragedy of the vernacular is that most cuss words are taken from sexual parts, obscene epithets that have much to do with how, why and how often one uses one's genitalia and how big it is. These incidentally, are the main issues that concern the readers of Dr. Holmes' regular column in a tabloid. That this book is the 15th collection of such columns shows how the search for good sex has become almost an obsession with today's Filipino.

So how to couch four-letter words in polite language fit for print? With a lot of humor and outrageous candor that do not, however, blunt the no-nonsense clinical advice and sympathetic approach to those stymied by myths and locker room talk. Always, there are quotes from other experts, a cultural context to explain how and why some sexual myths are perpetuated, practical techniques on overcoming sexual inadequacies, and some warm sisterly advice on maintaining self-esteem through all the doubts and dissing. A handy how-to on enjoying sex without the guilt, the guile and the gawkiness of the uninitiated. **PAC**

"Dreamweavers" *by Ma. Elena P. Paterno, Corazon C. Alvina, Rene B. Javellana, S.J., and Sandra B. Castro (Bookmark, Inc.)*
Featuring exquisite photographs by top lensman Neal Oshima, "Dreamweavers" is a gorgeous and important book chronicling one of our true cultural treasures: *t'nalak*, the ingenious and indigenous art of abaca weaving as practised by the T'Boli tribe. Not only is "Dreamweavers" an important repository of irreplaceable designs, every last one of which is portrayed here. It is also a luxurious and accessible link to our cultural past, as guided by the writers' words and Oshima's photographs, embedded in the *t'nalak* designs themselves. "Dreamweavers" is a veritable celebration of Filipino creativity and skill, as well as a visual feast of a book, one serving up our very own history and art. **RSDV**

Flowers of Baguio

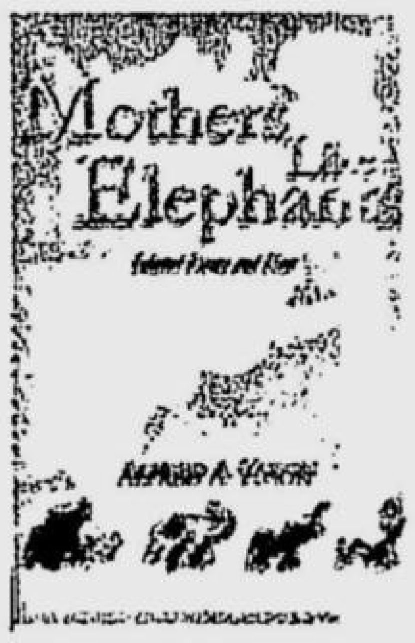
"Flowers of Baguio" *by Reynaldo Gamboa Alejandro, Vicente Roman S. Santos, Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation, Inc. (National Book Store/Anvil)*
Overlook the gushy tributes to the Baguio flower festival's sponsors and the author's sources and you'd definitely enjoy the blooming pages of this book. It's like keeping summer tucked in a corner of your room, ready to be unfurled anytime. A view of Baguio's perpetual spring in one glossy package, plus bits of historical information: Did you know that the Americans discovered Baguio while in hot pursuit of the Revolutionary Cabinet president Pedro Paterno, who had set up a Katipunan government in Benguet in the early 1900s? The color separation can be murky in spots, but overall, this coffee-table book assures a pleasant read and a vicarious visit to Baguio without the aggravation of a seven-hour traffic-choked trip. **PAC**

Growing into Asia
and Other Essays

"Growing into Asia and Other Essays" *by Susan P. Evangelista (UP Press)*
From Michigan to Thailand to Palawan, former Ateneo teacher Susan Evangelista applies her insight to these warm, friendly essays about the essence of moving between different cultures and yet caring about all those differences. The travel essays ("Coming Home" in particular) sparkle with confidence and detail, while the personal essays ("Finalities") zero in on specific emotions. Regardless of destination or location, she draws the reader into new territories with her inner thoughts. This book is perfect for those travelling to our neighboring countries or for any lazy afternoon when one simply dreams of leaving and going home, wherever that may be. **RSDV**

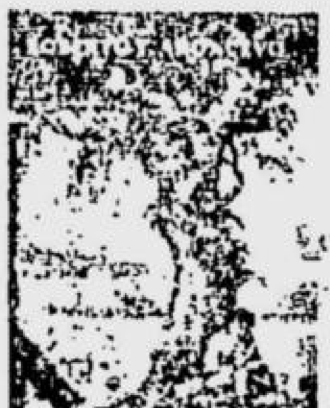
LIVES
MARGIN
ALFRED W. McCOY

"Lives at the Margin (Biography of Filipinos Obscure, Ordinary, and Heroic)" *Edited by Alfred W. McCoy (Ateneo de Manila University Press)*
A scholarly foray into the complex lives of ordinary and obscure Filipinos who have traditionally been left out of canonical biographies that focus mainly on leaders and heroes. Except for a few, among them recently beatified Pedro Calungsod, the subjects are remarkable for having failed in their challenges to the social order and ending their careers at the margins — impoverished, imprisoned, or dead. History may have ignored Iloilo City labor leader Jose Nava, spiritual leader and plantation workers' representative Hilario Moncado, sugar worker turned NPA turned rebel returnee Rafael, prominent female Huk leader Celia Mariano Pomeroy and glorified criminals Isabelo (Beloy) Montemayor and Ulysses (Boboy) Alega, among others. Yet, this book retrieves their lives so that "we can begin to reexamine received wisdom about the character of Philippine polity." An interesting and substantial study that enriches one's views of the marginalized in society. **PAC**



"Mothers Like Elephants: Selected Poems and New" *by Alfred A. Yuson (Anvil)*
Gathering the best from three previous poetry collections and a sampling of new work, Krip Yuson's 11th book exemplifies the nimble and street-smart nature of his succulent poems. From the voyeuristic power of "On Gawking at Ruffa's and Donita's Magical Manifestations On My PowerBook Screen" to the soft undulations of "Sea Serpent," Yuson proves time and again he possesses one of the most enjoyable—and naughtiest — voices in Philippine poetry from English. **RSDV**

"Pagsiping sa Lupain" *by Roberto T. Añonuevo (Ateneo University Press)*
If there is such a thing as a must-have for followers of Filipino poetry, then it should be Roberto Añonuevo's second collection. This voluminous selection of the multi-awarded poet's work displays



the full range of irresistible language, forceful presence and compelling imagery that make Añonuevo the most accomplished poet of his generation. From the playful brevity of "Voltez V *sa* Palawan" to the dense messages of prose poems like "Tamaraw F/X" to the sweeping anthem that is "*Lupain ng Kapangyarihan*," he puts forth literature clearly destined to transcend any summer reading. **RSDV**

"Philippine Coral Reefs: A Natural History Guide" *by Alan T. White (Bookmark Inc./Sulu Fund)*
So maybe not everyone will be interested to know that those soft plant-like critters that pop back into the hard coral every time you try to touch them are not plants at all, but Christmas tree worms, and they actually kill the polyps of their host corals. But, as the "Using this book" section specifies, this was written for students and serious underwater enthusiasts who will find details on everything from worms to *dugong* in this accessible science guide. Colored pictures, large print, less stodgy language ("A story of incredible diversity and biological interaction – the coral reef inhabitants" is the title of the main section on reef life) makes this not quite a textbook in the boring sense of the word. Still, the taxonomic checklist, glossary (yes, they've got zooxanthellae in there), and formidable references tell you that this is not lightweight matter, either, especially for a country with a lot of coastline like the Philippines. After all, author White is a doctor of geography, an expert in marine conservation and coral reef ecology, and current deputy chief of party of the US AID-funded Coastal Resource Management Project in the Philippines. **ABH**

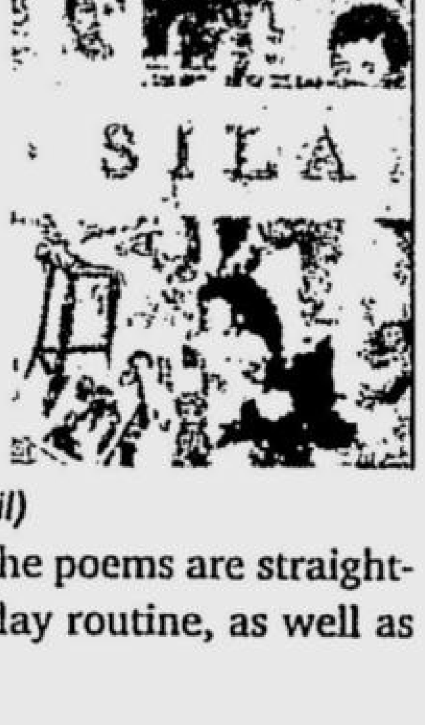
Philippine Coral Reefs
A Natural History Guide

"Riding Towards the Sunrise and Other Travel Tales" *by Alice M. Sun-Cua (Anvil)*
"There are travels not necessarily physical; these are distances traveled by the mind and heart," writes Alice M. Sun-Cua in her book's preface. A doctor by profession but obviously a writer and poet by vocation, Sun-Cua writes quiet travel pieces that reveal the introspection of someone who indeed uses her heart to write as well as to look at life. It helps that each journey finds her with familiar traveling companions, most frequently her husband Alex, with whom she can share a sunrise on a Java volcano, or a walk through a newly discovered old part of Sydney. You would expect her to remember little details like the dog in the woman's pocket on a train through France, or the velvet lining the bound feet of a grandmother-in-law she was meeting for the first time. Think of it as a Zen travelogue. No matter how tiring or stressful a tale is (like the time her train left minus Alex), it's the stars and the smiling faces you remember. **ABH**

riding towards the sunrise
and other travel tales
Alice m. sun-cua

"Seven in the Eye of History" *Edited by Asuncion David Maramba (Anvil)*
An intimate look into the lives of seven individuals who found themselves staring fate in the eye and didn't blink. **Philippine Daily Inquirer** founding chair Eugenia Apostol, former President Corazon Aquino, Kalinga chief Macli-ing Dulag, comfort woman Rosa Henson, sugar baron turned priest turned NPA rebel Luis Jalandoni, 1971 Constitutional Convention whistle-blower Eduardo Quintero and highly controversial church leader Jaime Cardinal Sin seized the moment and changed Philippine history. Except for two who have passed on, all the subjects are still very much around, which make for lively reading and a more rounded approach: lots of quotes from colleagues and contemporaries, prescient insights and hindsight, revelations, clarifications and current perceptions. The accompanying essays that analyze the issues upheld by the subjects – press freedom, human rights, social justice, integrity, church-state relations – give readers a wider perspective of the socio-political factors at the time as well as a deeper appreciation of the risks behind each individual decision. In all, a grand survey of contemporary Philippine history focused on the people who moved it. **PAC**

"*Sila (Kalipunan ng Maikling Katha)*" *by Liwayway A. Arceo (Anvil)*
Long before texting became the favored means of communication, people fell in love, broke their hearts and agonized over jobs lost and unwed motherhood using sometimes florid Tagalog to express grand emotions and grander silences. Arceo chronicled it all — the lives of ordinary folk, men and women caught in everyday situations of conflict. How will they react? Rather predictably, as this volume of short stories shows, but this is also social history, an overview of the morals and manners of two or three generations past. With that in mind and expectations tamed, one can enjoy this book as one does a *telenovela*, albeit with the passion considerably tamped down. **PAC**



"Witch's Dance *(At Iba Pang Tula sa Filipino at Español)*" *by Marra PL. Lanot (Anvil)*
The images are alternately bold and discreet, sensuous and subtle, but always the poems are straightforward declarations of passion, desire, self-worth, the simple truths in everyday routine, as well as mysteries unveiled in momentous encounters. Framed in words that are "liquid, granite and lava," the poems are celebrations of a life in tune with the self, with nature, with conflicts and crisis, but also with small victories and battles won. Fearless and forthright, Lanot also sandwiches her feminist creed between the metaphors, offering bites that are surprisingly savory and filling, affirmations rising like leaven bread. Indeed, the witch dances and how pliant the figure, how infectious the rhythm and how the skin tingles! **PAC**

Witch's Dance
at iba pang tula sa Filipino at Español
Marra PL Lanot

Titles available at National Bookstore, Powerbooks and the Filipino Bookstore.

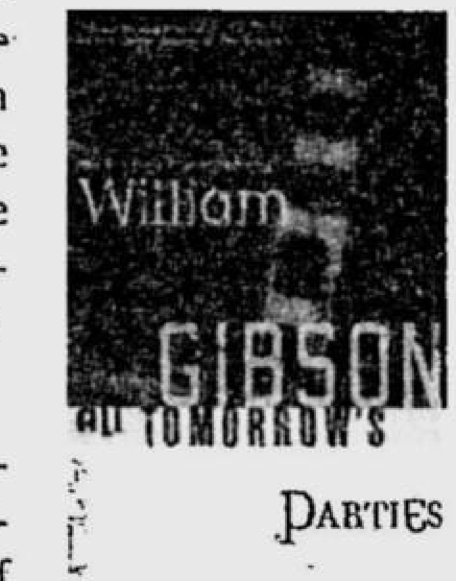
Foreign Publications

Fiction:

"A Day Late and a Dollar Short" *by Terry McMillan (Viking)*
It's like a daytime soap with Oprah, Sally Jessy and Gerardo in cameo roles. Replete with cliff-hanging episodes of a black family's personal crises, the novel is however rescued from maudlin drama by a healthy dose of earthy humor, sassy observations about people and confidences too hot for a confessional. A mother muses about the divergent lives of her four grown-up children and the fine mess they're in: substance abuse, adulterous affairs, small businesses that never take off, a jail term or two for petty crimes, incest and unplanned pregnancies. Throw in a bit of Family Feud as undercurrents of sibling rivalry tear up the relationship further. It takes the warm but acerbic no-nonsense mother to pull the family together and give her children back their dreams, self-respect and good sense. A feel-good read about strife, healing and redemption and yes, the sheer relief of knowing that family will always be there, though they may be "a day late and a dollar short." **PAC**

Terry McMillan
A DAY LATE and a DOLLAR SHORT

"All Tomorrow's Parties" *by William Gibson (Ace Books)*
Frequent visitors to William Gibson's intensely imagined near future know that what makes it so spooky is its utter plausibility. In Gibson's dystopian future, the borderline between the physical world and the virtual one has been blurred, and his characters cross over into the separate reality of cyberspace – a word which Gibson originated, incidentally – only to return deeply and irrevocably changed. "All Tomorrow's Parties" picks up where its predecessors "Virtual Light" and "Idoru" left off, with humans evolving more and more into a "posthuman" state as they interact more and more with the virtual world. In typical Gibson fashion, individual characters' trajectories converge in a climactic finale, but there are no pat answers in the end, just more tantalizing questions, which makes the long wait for the next Gibson novel all the more excruciating. **ESC**



"Code to Zero" *by Ken Follett (Dutton)*
A taut, wire-to-wire Cold War spy novel from the author of "The Third Twin," this book set in 1958 centers around Luke Lucas and his mysterious case of amnesia. But this well-written thriller links his forgetfulness with the race between the Soviet Union and the United States to get into outer space first. Though some of the punches will have been familiar by now to veteran Follett readers, "Code to Zero" does not disap-

KEN
FOLLETT
CODE TO ZERO

point with its tense atmosphere and its very fascinating protagonist, the harassed mathematician Lucas. A good, quick and relatively stress-free read for the adventure and espionage fan. **RSDV**

"Dust to Dust" *by Tami Hoag (Bantam Books)*

TAMI HOAG
DUST
TO
DUST

"Like a boa constrictor choking the life from its prey, the noose tightens and tightens." If you can make it through that hokey short first chapter describing a death by hanging, you'll enjoy the rest of this thriller, which tries to figure out whether the hanging was a suicide, kinky sex gone wrong (word for the day: hypoxyphilia, sexual arousal by oxygen deprivation) or a murder. It's a contemporary cop story featuring two tough partners with dysfunctional personal lives. Sam Kovac smokes too much and Nikki Liska is trying to fend off a jerk of an ex-husband; she's described as having "an attitude out the wazoo." The dialogue is tough cop talk – you know, lots of sh—, f—k and a—hole – and the plot littered with convoluted intentions and potential suspects. Of course, the killer is actually…but hey, what else would you do all summer? **ABH**

"Hong Kong" *by Stephen Coonts (St. Martin's Press)*

Coonts is best known as the creator of the craft novel "Flight of the Intruder." Now he goes political with "Hong Kong." There are some new ideas and some old friends as Coonts reinserts his poised super-spook Admiral Jake Grafton into a mix that involves Chinese zealots stirring out deadly trouble in their reclaimed colony. To save his wife Callie, Jake must immerse himself in a whole new kind of struggle, this time in a city full of technology, money and weapons. Fast-paced and rather implausible at certain parts, "Hong Kong" is a sleek airport novel that features the almost superhumanly elusive Grafton in a relatively exotic hot spot. Consider it Le Carre lite. **RSDV**

STEPHEN
COONTS
HONG
KONG

"Maya" *by Jostein Gaardner (Phoenix House)*

JOSTEIN
GAARDER
Maya

Have you ever watched the sunset and became so strongly gripped by the mysteries of creation that you suddenly declaimed some lengthy profundities and New Age wisdom? If you did, you must be a character in Gaardner's new novel, "Maya," which is ostensibly about an English author's grief over his wife's death, an enigmatic Spanish couple wrapped up in love for each other, and some interesting musings on evolution and how we are descended from fish and may have this residual cannibalism gene that after all helped us survive. There are riddles and illusions sprinkled throughout this novel being narrated by a Norwegian evolutionary biologist but that's not enough to nudge the story forward. The whole approach and style are too precious and ponderous that they eventually snuff out the initial interest sparked by the novel's premise. Indeed, it's a book about big ideas about the universe and the Big Bang of creation, but watch out lest they block the view and become a black hole instead. **PAC**

"Prodigal Summer" *by Barbara Kingsolver (Perennial)*

Now this is yummy, sit-in-the-rocking chair-while-sipping-some-iced tea summer reading. It's light, escapist, full of human weakness and folly, but excellently written. The charm has less to do with the title, a reference to the season when everyone gets frisky in this novel full of the great outdoors, sweating bodies and deliciously loaded con-

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FREE CONSULTATION

versations, than it does with Kingsolver's ability to immediately draw the reader in. Never mind that it's set in the Appalachian mountains, amidst small American farms where people are concerned with coyotes and moths and Japanese beetles. The protagonists are a reclusive divorced wildlife biologist, a young entomologist who has wet dreams about sex with a moth-man after her farmer husband dies, and a crabby old couple trying to get friendly. Sounds hard to believe, but the characterization is so good you'll relate soon enough. Kingsolver jumps from one little love story to the other, and winds up in the slow, lazy way that novels like these end, leaving you sighing about life. Despite the distance from the Pinoy experience, this one proves that a good read, no matter how parochial the setting, truly transcends cultural boundaries.

ABH

"The Beggar/ The Thief And The Dogs/ Autumn Quail" *by Naguib Mahfouz (Anchor Books)*

Three short novels set in post-revolutionary Egypt in the 1950s. This is not an easy read with its ponderous style and verbose philosophical underpinnings, but past that, "The Beggar" manages to hook the reader with its multi-layered tale of despair and alienation, a search for relevance and meaning that still holds true today. "The Thief" is a more compelling read, as it follows a released felon as he goes through his well-rehearsed intention of retribution and redemption. Instead, he finds himself sinking deeper into destruction with no one to blame but himself. "Autumn Quail" might as well be written for the political cronies of a deposed President who suddenly find themselves marginalized under a new order and vacillates between old loyalties and new alliances. Despite the initial hurdle over archaic language, Mahfouz's novels resonate with an emotional depth that finds common ground beyond Egypt's past politics.

PAC

"Wish You Well" *by David Baldacci (Warner)*

Some readers like their writers trying new things; some readers like their favorite authors to just keep doing the same things over and over again. Strangely enough, David Baldacci ("Absolute Power") used to just write the same kind of book. But "Wish You Well" is an obvious departure from his street-smart thrillers. More like an ode to his childhood, "Wish You Well" is an greatly uneven coming-of-age novel about, of all people, a 12-year-old girl growing up in the 1940s. If anything, this book is an interesting if not altogether effective new direction for a familiar author.

RSDV

DAVID BALDACCI

Non-fiction:

"A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius" *by Dave Eggers (Vintage Books)*

Humor being man's only defense against the horror of the world, the protagonist in Dave Eggers' astonishing debut copes with the loss of both his parents early in life and the difficulty of having to raise his younger brother on his own by publishing a satirical magazine called "Might." Through "Might," he is able to take potshots at MTV's "The Real World," fake the death of a former child star, and generally screw with the *zeitgeist* of the '90s. But reality bites, and before long he is forced to admit that irony is not enough to carry one through life. "A.H.W.O.S.G." is irresistibly funny, especially when the author spews bile on modern civilization and its discontents. But the heartbreak the title hints at is never far from the surface.

ESC

DAVE EGGERS

"Colours of the Mountain" *by Da Chen (Arrow)*

"The unfortunate year of my birth left a permanent flaw in my character: I was always hungry. I yearned for food. I could talk, think, and dream about it forever." Once you read this gripping sentence in the book's first chapter, you know it's going to be the story of a dramatic life struggle. Yet, the *gravitas* is delivered not in the drama, but in the author's masterful ability to capture great emotions in the simplest, most elegant of words. Da Chen was born in China in 1962, the year of a great drought and political unrest under Chairman Mao, a year that would see his family suffer greatly at the hands of the Communist cadres. The title refers to Ch'ing Mountain, under whose shadow he spent his childhood and to which his family always looked for reassurance that there was something to hope for, no matter how distant the prospect seemed. Indeed, Da Chen manages to worry about growing up, fitting in, falling in love and finding joy even amidst the hardships. "Though we sat in a humble mud hut with a flickering kerosene light," he writes after one heartwarming day with family and friends, "it felt like we had the whole world within our hearts." For the author, salvation comes in the form of an education, a sobering reminder to readers of the relative value of the freedoms and privileges we often take for granted. The fact that it is written with such effective economy of language makes this memoir even more uplifting and worthy of your time.

ABH

COLOURS OF THE MOUNTAIN

"Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith and Love" *by Dava Sobel (Penguin)*

Behind every great man, some genius said, is a woman, and while history is replete with tales of stage mothers and beloved muses, here's the adoring child behind the man who plotted the heavens. The renowned scientist Galileo Galilei himself called his illegitimate daughter, Virginia, a.k.a. Suor Maria Celeste, "a women of exquisite mind." She had lived in a convent for 10 years when she sent her father the first of the 124 surviving letters upon which this engaging historical account is anchored. Yet, Suor Celeste was her father's biggest groupie ("Excuse my gross ignorance," she grovels in her early notes), most ardent supporter and best adviser. As her wisdom and ability in fields as diverse as writing, mathematics and medicine became evident in later years, she proves to be truly Daddy's girl. Sobel segues easily from her narrative to comments on Suor Celeste's tone, calligraphy and possible agenda. In life as in this book, though, the title character has only a supporting role. It's still all about a man ahead of his time, a pretty volume peppered with illustrations and works of art on Galileo, plus an ingenious timeline that begins with his scientific predecessors and ends with NASA's launch of the Galileo spacecraft in 1999. Well, somebody had to sew his collars.

ABH

DAVA SOBEL
Galileo's
Daughter

"Special Forces: A Guided Tour of U.S. Army Special Forces" *by Tom Clancy (Berkley Books)*

The seventh in techno-thriller author Clancy's nonfiction series on the armed forces' weapons and tools, "Special Forces" highlights the different elements of the most fascinating of the American armed units. Including a very short mini-novel, "Special Forces" will mystify the uninitiated, but will surely provide hours of diversion for the hardcore modern military fan.

RSDV

Tom Clancy
Special Forces

"When We Were Orphans" *by Kazuo Ishiguro (Vintage International)*

A strong story line propels this somewhat languid recollection of life in Shanghai in the 1920s for the young son of an ex-pat British couple, employees of a British firm that sells opium to China. Christopher Banks, now a celebrated detective in 1930s London, still ponders the mysterious disappearance of his parents that has led him to grow up virtually an orphan obsessed with unraveling clues and discovering social connections. How he eventually found out the truth behind his parents' kidnapping, linked up again with his childhood Japanese pal in the midst of war and created his own version of family makes for a deeply satisfying read.

PAC

Children's Books

By Robin C. Rivero

KIDS, this summer, are more likely to be plunked before AXN and Playstation 2 than curled up someplace comfy, reading a book. While these books probably won't change that, they have a better chance at changing kids' minds than most. These are books even parents and other grown-ups can enjoy—best read by kids and grown-ups, together.

***"Ang Ambisyosong Istetoskop"** by Luis P. Gatmaitan, M. D. (Adarna)*
Illustrated by Pepper Roxas

The last thing kids want to think of during their vacation is school. So a history lesson, given around this time, could become particularly odious, but while *"Ang Ambisyosong Istetoskop"* is really a history lesson in disguise, it is nonetheless a cleverly written tale. It tells the story of Istet, a proud stethoscope "Made in Spain" who learns to accept and, later, admire the strange little brown man who took him home. The man, by the way, is a doctor and people call him "Pepe." Readers will be amused to discover that the stethoscope of long ago looked nothing like the instrument used today. The delightfully whimsical illustrations by Pepper Roxas provide the book with many more amusing moments.

"Good Night, Sleep Tight" *Compiled by Ivan and Mal Jones (Scholastic)*

Children do not normally go to bed and ask for a poem but this book just might change that. "Good Night, Sleep Tight" contains 366 poems on every subject, one "for every night of the year." Ivan and Mal Jones compiled works by known and lesser-known writers, even those not normally associated with children's poetry. They include J.R.R. Tolkien, Rabindranath Tagore, Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes. Each poem is assigned to a date of the year and many are downright hilarious. Here's an excerpt of the poem for April Fools': "I wonder why Dad is so thoroughly mad/ I can't understand it at all/ unless it's the bee still afloat in his tea/ or his underwear pinned to the wall..." Kids will be giggling their way to a good night's sleep.

"J. K. Rowling: The Wizard Behind Harry Potter" *by Marc Shapiro (St. Martin's Griffin)*

If your kids have scoured the Internet for everything Harry Potter, they'd hardly need this book. Being an unauthorized biography, the information it offers has been obtained from other sources, such as websites and previous interviews by other journalists. Still, the book is an instructive summary of J. K. Rowling's life with interesting trivia on how Harry Potter came to be. A number of things are also explained, such as why J. K. Rowling's real name, which is Joanne Kathleen, cannot be used in her books. The chapter on how J. K. Rowling writes will be a great help to young writers who want to follow in her footsteps. A grown-up, though, might occasionally be needed to handle questions about divorce, welfare and publishing rights.

***"Nasaan si Kuya Emil?"** by Germaine Yia Illustrated by Michael Adrao (Adarna)*

A little boy who has not seen his *Kuya* Emil in a long time is convinced that his favorite older cousin has been kidnapped. Or, as he puts it, "kuyanapped." Worse, it seems an impostor has come home to take his *Kuya* Emil's place. With a light and humorous touch, Germaine Yia evokes the incredible frustration and disbelief felt by a child who suddenly discovers his playmate all grown up. As the child attempts to unmask the "fake" *Kuya* Emil, what he discovers is a simple lesson about how people can change, even the ones we love the most. This book shows, however, that learning that lesson doesn't always have to be sentimental or sad.

"The Brothers Wu and the Good-Luck Eel" *by Fran Ng*
Illustrated by Arnel Mirasol (Tahanan Books For Young Readers)

At a Chinese restaurant, Ipo, or grandaunt, refuses to eat eel. The reason why turns out to be both an account of a family's history as well as the Palanca-winning narration of a family legend. This simple and charming story about discovering one's heritage, told over bowls of Yang Chow fried rice all the way to almond lychee dessert, can be appreciated by all children. Award-winning artist Arnel Mirasol fills his illustrations with fine details, from the thinnest strand of hair to the tiniest ridge on an eel's fin, resulting in artwork that's a feast for the eyes and as colorful and richly textured as a lauriat.

"The Quarreling Kites" *by Lin Acacio-Flores (Tahanan Books for Young Readers)*
Illustrated by Hermes Alegre

It appears to be a story about two kites, a Big Kite and a Little Kite, and at first they don't get along. But pretty soon one discovers the exhilaration of being borne by the wind. It's a wonderful experience, all right, but the kites soon learn that the joy of that experience is greater when shared. At the same time, this story is also very subtly about a father and his son and the many afternoons they spend flying kites together. Lin Acacio-Flores' nicely cadenced prose lends itself well to being read aloud and the illustrations by Hermes Alegre in earthy browns and warm splashes of red and yellow make this book an even more ideal summer read.

"The Trumpet of the Swan" *by E. B. White Illustrated by Fred Marcellino (Harper Collins)*

Louis is a swan born mute who has learned to read, write and play the trumpet too. He plays so well, he gets a cushy job at a nightclub in Boston and in his spare time composes his own tunes. People are surprised to find a literate trumpet-playing swan in their midst, but their surprise is soon replaced by delight at finding such a fascinating creature. In this age of Counterstrike and Powerpuff Girls, that whole premise seems way off the mark. What? No hunters or greedy producers nipping at Louis' tail feathers? E. B. White, the author of "Charlotte's Web" and "Stuart Little," did write this book many years ago, when the world was a different place. This book, then, is for people who can set their cynicism aside for a while, long enough to see a marvel and allow themselves to believe it.

"Up, Up, Down" *by Robert Munsch Illustrated by Michael Martchenko (Scholastic)*

Before reading this book to any of your kids, you'd better get that bad back fixed. "Up, Up, Down" is about a naughty little girl who will climb absolutely anything...with somewhat obvious results. The possible danger this story poses to your back is directly proportional to your enthusiasm in reading the book. The story requires a grown-up who does voices, reads with mucho gusto and will unabashedly fill the whole storytelling experience with full arm-swinging and torso-twisting action. The wacky illustrations will already get the laughter going and, by the time, you close the book, be prepared for a round of story-inspired rough play. There's no moral to be picked up here, just a plain nutty story that's loads and loads of fun.

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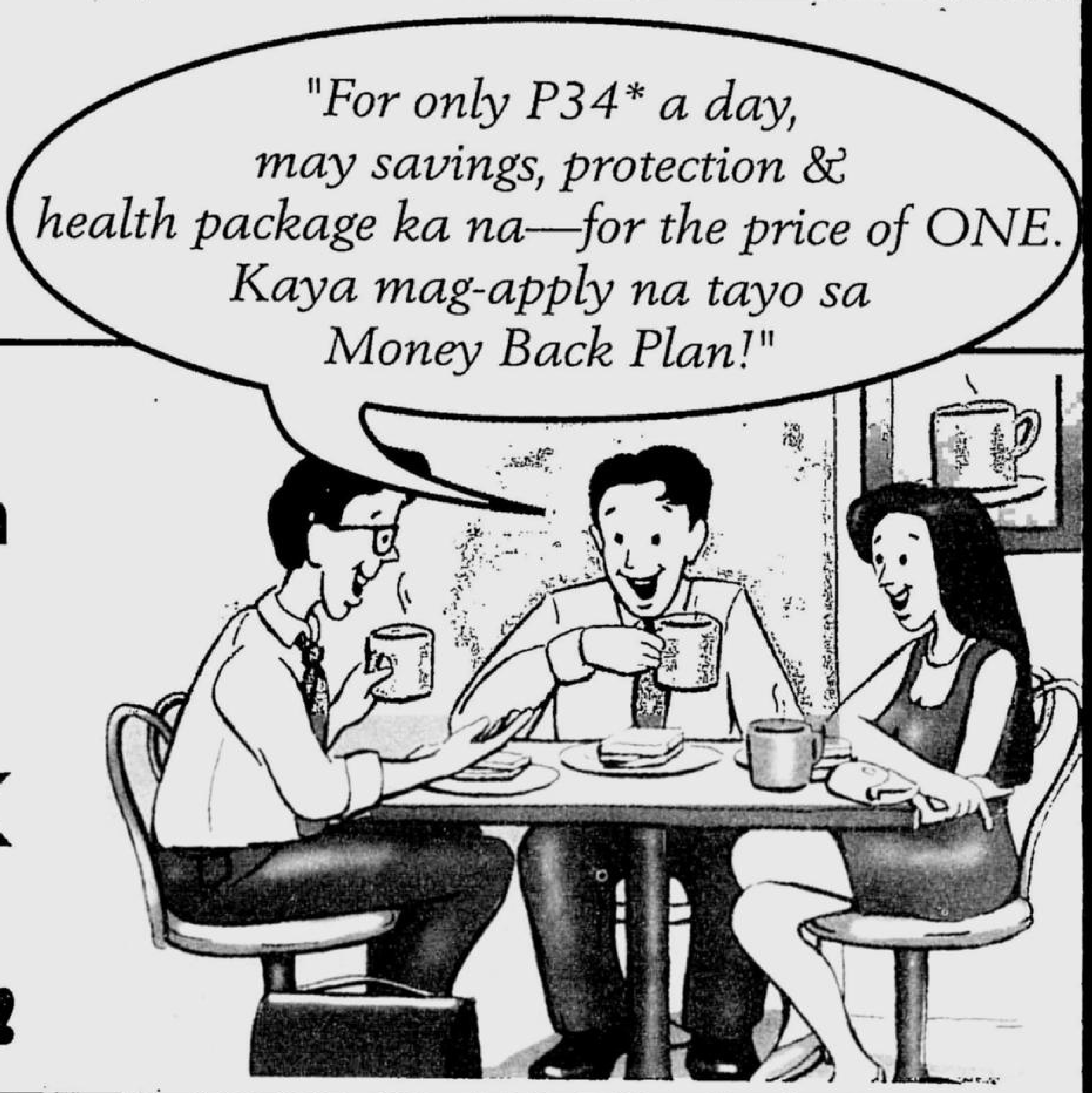
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36-39	121.90	1,380.00	243.80	2,760.00	487.60	5,520.00	731.40	8,280.00	975.20	11,040.00	1,219.00	13,800.00	2,438.00	27,600.00
40-43	151.90	1,720.00	303.80	3,440.00	607.60	6,880.00	911.40	10,320.00	1,215.20	13,760.00	1,519.00	17,200.00	3,038.00	34,400.00
44-47	193.90	2,196.00	387.80	4,392.00	775.60	8,784.00	1,163.40	13,176.00	1,551.20	17,568.00	1,939.00	21,960.00	3,878.00	43,920.00
48-50	231.90	2,624.00	463.80	5,248.00	927.60	10,496.00	1,391.40	15,744.00	1,855.20	20,992.00	2,319.00	26,240.00	4,638.00	52,480.00
51-53	277.90	3,144.00	555.80	6,288.00	1,111.60	12,576.00	1,667.40	18,864.00	2,223.20	25,152.00	2,779.00	31,440.00	5,558.00	62,880.00
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Cover Story

by Eric S. Caruncho

The Radioactive Sago Project has made an unlikely art form of beat poetry, delivered with melodic accompaniment, style and a very Pinoy sense of humor

Words and Music

I HAVE SEEN THE BEST MINDS OF MY GENERATION DESTROYED BY MADNESS, STARVING, HYSTERICAL NAKED, WALKING THE STREETS AT DAWN LOOKING FOR AN ANGRY FIX – AND SOMEBODY ACTUALLY GAVE THEM A RECORD DEAL.

That's right, we're talking about The Radioactive Sago Project. (For those not up on local pop culture, that's a band, not another iced drink franchise.)

Listeners who tune in to contemporary radio might have picked up on the insistent jazz-funk riffing that opens *"Gusto Ko Ng Baboy,"* possibly the most warped single to hit the airwaves since Yoyoy Villame's immortal "Buchikik."

In *"Baboy,"* the narrator's porcine obsession ends with the epiphany *"Baboy tayong lahat!,"* especially resonant considering the time frame (*"Baboy"* could, no, *should* have served as the unofficial soundtrack of the impeachment trial.)

In any case, the song obviously struck a chord.

The band got immediate airplay and a record deal with, of all people, Viva Records. Why, they've even got a music video. But perhaps the surest sign that the band has arrived is the fact that they've been pirated.

Yes, you can now buy pirate CDs of "The Radioactive Sago Project" for about 40 bucks on most sidewalk stalls, along with VCDs of "Live Show," "The Best of the Eraserheads" and Japanese porn CDs. (Not that you should, mind you. Remember, kids, fake CDs kill music. Or at least, the music business.)

With a name like "The Radioactive Sago Project," one might be led to believe that the group is nothing more than a novelty act, something like Da Pulis or others of that unfortunate ilk. And one might be half right.

But further investigation reveals the other half: the band's output is, somehow, *literary*. Like *"Baboy,"* most of the Sago's songs consist of front man Lourd de Veyra's raps, rants and ravings, backed by a seven-piece horn band (Francis de Veyra, bass; E.J. Delgado, guitar; Jay Gapasin, drums; Armin Nava, percussion; Pards Tupas, trombone; Rastem Eugenio, saxophone; Wowie Anzan, trumpet).

Consider the second, er, single, *"Tungkol sa Wala,"* which consists mainly of the singer's riffing on nothing much in particular to a bebop-inspired background.

"Pretentious existential Digable Planets wannabe" is how de Veyra, whose mindspawn the Sago Project is, describes it. Catchy, though.

The Sago owes its origins to de Veyra's twin obsessions in college: writing and punk rock. While still a journalism major at UST, he fell under the sway of his teachers. Two, in particular, made an impression: poet Ophelia Dimalanta and Al Dimalanta, erstwhile leader of local hardcore legends the Deadends, who somehow ended up teaching public relations. De Veyra immersed himself in the great writers, particularly those perennial hipsters of the Beat Generation (his undergrad thesis was on the aesthetics of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg and William Burroughs). He also ended up playing guitar for the Deadends, then on its last legs but still kicking.

To this day, de Veyra (foreground, with book) admits to feeling dazed by hearing their words being turned into music

Upon leaving college, the aspiring beatnik joined a paper and started reading his poetry at literary shindigs. To jazz things up – poetry readings can be tedious affairs -- he started spouting his poetry to backing tapes of John Coltrane wailing on sax.

"People kept referring to the movie 'So I Married an Axe Murderer'," recalls de Veyra. Apparently, there is a poetry slam scene in the film. Try to do Kerouac, people think of Mike Myers, go figure. But these formative experiences held the embryo of the Sago.

In 1998, de Veyra published "Subterranean Thought Parade," a collection of poems. As a promotional gimmick - even poetry books need some sort of marketing plan – he formed a backing band to accompany readings. Ta-da! The Radioactive Sago Project.

The Sago's early numbers consisted of the band's jazzy noodlings behind de Veyra's Beat-inspired poems. "Black Smoke Blues," "Caffeine Jolt Jazz," "The Blue Street" clearly owe something to Ginsberg, Ferlinghetti et.al. The band rounded out their repertoire with versions of jazz classics such as Coltrane's "Blue Train" and Miles Davis "All Blues," the themes from "Sesame Street" and "T.O.D.A.S.," and a jazz version of Black Sabbath's "War Pigs."

In this early incarnation the band was merely the sum of all its cultural reference points.

"Pag ganoon ang concept *mo, nakakatamad* (it's boring)," admits de Veyra. *"Gusto namin minsan mag-ingay. Gusto ko talagang mag-*punk (We want to be noisy sometimes)."

The band had been listening to John Zorn's "Spy Vs. Spy," which combined the improvisational fire of free jazz with the high-decibel intensity of punk.

This kind of kamikaze jazz clearly being beyond their chops, what they came up with instead was *"Gusto Ko Ng Baboy."*

By this time, the band had taken on a life of its own, with regular gigs at Mayric's and Ora Café. Audiences who scratched their heads at "Blue Train" found something to relate to in *"Baboy,"* as well as other surreal monologues such as "Love *Ko Si* Satan" and "Spaceship 7-11."

The band had given no thought to recording, until someone asked them if they had a demo. To this day, de Veyra still seems dazed by the turn of events: the recording of the demo, its being picked up by NU107 and placed on heavy rotation, the record deal, actual paying gigs.

"Hindi talaga ako frontman, *gusto kong mag-gitara* (I want to play the guitar)" says de Veyra. *"Sinubukan ko nang kumanta, hindi ko talaga kaya. Sigaw, pwede pa* (I tried to sing, I couldn't do it. Shout, I could)."

As a journalist who's covered the music scene, he knows too well the pitfalls of being in the music biz.

"Baboy" could be a fluke (*"Tungkol sa Wala"* doesn't seem to have its predecessor's trotters). The Sago could still end up with such dimly-remembered one-hit wonders as the Weedd (one of whose members is in the Sago, actually). No one is quitting their day jobs yet.

At this point, anything is possible. The mere fact that something like *"Baboy"* can occupy the same airwaves as Freestyle and Jessa Zaragoza is good enough for me.

It's Your Choice

Editor's note: The ***Sunday Inquirer Magazine*** *continues its contribution to the Philippine Daily Inquirer's "Voter's Voice: Eleksyon 2001" coverage with a series of short profiles of candidates. Each issue, the magazine will feature some senatorial candidates, either party-affiliated or independent, to help voters get to know the people running for national positions. We will also speak to some party list representatives and, as a reminder that this election will have repercussions in our very own backyards, a few unique stories of local government candidates from small communities all over the country. We will feature the interviews as they come; thus, the candidates will be profiled in no particular order. We are proud to be carrying out this project in cooperation with GMA-7. Watch out for more profiles of the senatorial candidates every evening on GMA's news programs* "Saksi" *and "Front Page."*

NOLI **DE CASTRO**

Independent-Puwersa ng Masa

HE STARTED his career in the broadcast industry in 1976 as a field reporter of Johnny de Leon for dwWW radio. In 1986 he entered the field of television as one of the segment hosts of " Good Morning, Philippines." Less than a year later, he became the host of "Magandang Gabi, Bayan" *and anchorman of "TV Patrol." He was vice president for news of ABS-CBN before he resigned to run for the Senate. He was the recipient of the Rotary Club of Manila Emilio Jacinto Journalism Award for Radio last year and was best public affairs program host for 1999 in the KBP Golden Dove Awards.* "Karunungan, kalikasan, kapangyarihan sa mamamayan" *are his central campaign themes.*

Who has been the most influential person in your life, and what did you learn from this person?
I was fatherless at the age of five, so my mother's dual role was the center of my so-called wonder years. She's tough, organized and determined.

What is the most important decision you ever made?
My decision to venture into politics is perhaps the biggest decision I have ever made. I see this trip as being full of curves, humps and manholes, but I am ready to move into a new phase of my professional life.

Tell me a time when you followed your conscience in the face of strong public opposition.
When I resolved to become a broadcaster. Everybody was telling me that it was not a lucrative profession, that it was mired in intrigues. But I was banking on my preparation, my personal conviction and how I could help others in my own little way.

If you could go back and undo one decision in your public life, what would it be and why?
In 1981, against the will of those close to my heart and individuals who contributed to my career, I left for the United States to pursue a new career. But a year after, I returned, sensing that I might have betrayed the will of my elders at a time when I should have faced the challenge of a controlled media in the country. Given the chance to turn back the hands of time, I would stay and fight it out with the oppressors of freedom of expression.

What have you done in your public life or political career that you are proudest of?
The production of many *"Magandang Gabi, Bayan"* episodes dealing with various concerns of our society, and the many individuals whom we provided with a resounding voice that was heard even by deaf ears.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?
A frail Mahatma Gandhi weaving his own clothes in peace and exchanging notes with his peers. Gandhi telling Jawaharlal Nehru that confrontation is counterproductive and that there is no reason to be found in the barrel of a gun.

What is the most powerful idea you have come across?
That man's likeness to God is not found in the flesh but in the spirit, which has the power to reject evil and pursue what is good, the only choice that pleases our Creator.

Stella O. Gonzales

Power to the Consumer

After battling a softdrink giant, Coalition 349 believes it's ready for Congress

COALITION 349 first came to public attention when the group held Pepsi Cola accountable for denying some consumers' claims of winning the softdrink company's promo based on the number 349. Vic del Fierro Jr., who founded the Coalition for Consumer Protection and Welfare in 1992 and filed a $400 million class suit against Pepsi, describes his group as "the only Filipino consumer organization ever to stand up against a Goliath in global business." There are conflicting reports on the outcome of that suit, but it stressed the need, says Del Fierro, for "a pro-active consumers' representative in Congress."

Del Fierro Jr.

What is your political platform and legislative agenda?
We are committed to pursuing social, judicial and legislative reforms that will protect, educate and work for the welfare of Filipino consumers. Our legislative agenda includes comprehensive coverage and amendments to the Consumers Code; the creation of an independent commission for consumer protection and welfare to handle all class suits of consumers; the market recall of all defective products; the strict and effective enforcement of corporate and government liability to consumers; severe penal sanctions for deceitful advertising, fraudulent promotions, substandard and hazardous health products, networking and pyramid scams and empty warranties and guaranties of manufacturers.

What is your core belief and commitment?
We believe in free enterprise, responsible corporate citizenship, profit with honor, business as engines of social development and high moral ethics on trade.

Who are your nominees and what makes them qualified to represent your group?
Myself, Vic del Fierro, Jr., a tested consumer fighter and an incorruptible and effective strategist; Nelly Valdez, a political activist, entrepreneur and former executive director of the Ninoy Aquino Movement; Norrie de Castro del Fierro, home economist and book author; Editha Salih, a Muslim consumerist and housewife based in Cotabato; and Ida Bangcal, a young entrepreneur from Davao.

As lead nominee, what drives and motivates you?
The challenge of helping marginalized people find solutions to their basic problems.

What experiences shaped who you are?
My more than 18 years as a servant leader of a covenanted Catholic prayer community, giving Bible studies and handling prayer meetings, and my nine-year crusade for justice in the Pepsi 349 controversy. My four years as PR consultant in the Philippine Senate also exposed me to the enlightened legislative process.

When you think of leadership, what ideas and images come to mind?
Leadership by example. An interactive leader should first be a servant to understand his people, their needs, aspirations and expectations.

What have you done that you're proudest of in public life?
I have fought for our poor consumers despite physical harassment, multi-million peso briberies and oppressive criminal prosecutions.

What's the most important decision you ever made?
My political rebirth, from being a management consultant to a vigilant consumer fighter for justice, which happened when I found my road to Damascus in 1983.

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

Never Too Old to Make a **Difference**

Don't count them out yet; the country's retirees have been energized by the prospect of having their say in Congress

IT ALL started when a group of retirees led by Amado F. Cabaero and Honesto C. General felt shortchanged by the Social Security System, which for many years had allotted them a monthly pension way below minimum wage. Thus was the Philippine Association of Retired Persons (PARP) founded on May 1, 1999, and it has since been working for better pensions and other family benefits for the country's retirees.

Cabaero

What is your party's official name and what sector are you supposed to represent?
Our official name is the Philippine Association of Retired Persons (PARP), and we represent the retired and retiring members of SSS, GSIS, the military and other retirement systems.

What is your party platform and program of government?
PARP shall promote consultation and participation among the leaders and the governed as a way of determining the popular will. It shall promote the right of the masses, including retired persons and the elderly, to speak for themselves and air their grievances.

Who are your nominees and what makes them the most qualified for the position?
The lead nominee is myself, Amado F. Cabaero, PARP national president, an accountant and a retired senior vice president of Solidbank. Next is Honesto C. General, PARP vice president, a mechanical engineer, a retired insurance executive and a weekly columnist of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. Then there's Jose B. Castillejos, PARP region head for Eastern Visayas, a retired plant general manager of Cosmos Bottling Corporation.

As lead nominee of your group, what are your core values, commitments and beliefs?
I believe strongly in honesty both in private and public life. I believe in steadfast dedication and commitment to whatever one has decided to do, no matter the difficulties and obstacles that may stand in the way.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?
I think of people joyfully exerting their best efforts to accomplish what should be done and of the leader joyfully directing and reviewing the work done to assure satisfactory performance.

Who do you relate to in public life?
Jose P. Laurel Sr., whose unselfish service to the country during the Japanese Occupation saved many Filipinos. He gave his life that those who live after him may enjoy and remember the price of freedom.

How will you govern if elected?
I shall dedicate my full time and effort in fighting for the welfare of the elderly, especially retirees. I shall consult with my constituents to determine their popular will and do my best in Congress to sponsor or support any legislation that will be responsive to their needs. I shall conduct myself with full transparency.

What's the most important decision you ever made?
After high school and just after the war, I decided to come to Manila to look for work and study, with hardly any money in my pocket. I found work and studied at night. It took me about eight years to get a diploma and many years more of hard work after that to live a better life.

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

ERNESTO "BOY" **HERRERA**

Lakas-NUCD-People Power Coalition

HERRERA rose to national prominence as secretary general of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines. He was a member of the Agrava Fact-Finding Board that investigated the assassination of Benigno Aquino Jr. and in 1985 became the second individual (the other being Lech Walesa) to receive the George Meany International Human Rights Award. He was a two-term senator. As congressman of Bohol, he was one of three who filed the impeachment complaint against then President Joseph Estrada.

Who has been the most influential person in your life and what did you learn from this person?
My father. I learned from him the value of education. He was a soldier who decided to finish high school. We were in the same school.

What experiences shaped who you are?
My experience as a labor leader and labor educator. The idea of social justice became real when I talked to plantation workers in Mindanao.

What was the most important decision you ever made?
I became a trade union man, working for the welfare of workers and promoting their interest. And of course my decision to fight against dangerous drugs, a very serious problem at present.

If you could go back and undo one decision in your public life, what would it be and why?
I would have worked even harder to protect the working man and woman and to promote his/her interest. Even now, I think more should be done for the worker.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?
Courage in the face of overwhelming odds. The image that comes to my mind is of Harry Truman wrestling with his conscience before he decided to drop the atom bomb.

What is the most powerful idea you have come across?
The Christian idea of love, forbearance and forgiveness. This is the foundation of my moral vision.

Stella O. Gonzales

RAMON "JUN" B. **MAGSAYSAY JR.**

Independent-People Power Coalition

HE WAS 18 when his father, President Ramon Magsaysay, died in a plane crash. The experience made him stronger and more responsible for himself, his mother and his two elder sisters. This mechanical engineer became congressman of Zambales in 1966. His political career was revived in 1992 when he ran as the vice presidential bet of Miriam Santiago. He is running for reelection under a campaign called J.O.B.S.—jobs, opportunities, business, security.

Tell me a time when you followed your conscience in the face of strong public opposition.
When I decided to resign from the LAMP coalition I knew I might get the ire of the many Estrada supporters. But I felt that I owed it to the Filipino people to give them a better life and a morally upright government. I was the first from the ruling coalition to openly go against President Estrada. But I proudly stood by my decision regardless of the political consequences. The memory of my father and what he stood for became my guiding light.

If you could undo one decision in your public life, what would it be and why?
I don't think I would want to undo anything in my life. I am what I am, and I am where I am today because of the good and bad choices I have made. That is how we make ourselves better persons.

What have you done in your public life that you are proudest of?
During my six years as senator I prioritized and implemented projects and programs that have given the ordinary Filipino the opportunity to make their lives better. These focused on generating enterprise, providing better economic opportunities, advancing the cause of overseas workers, providing education and hands-on training for poor students, promoting public health through potable water systems, and developing information technology that would bring the country to the next level of economic progress.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?
Integrity, competence, sound values and JFK.

What is the most powerful idea you have come across?
The economic law that people react to incentives. Unfortunately, government service has not been attuned to such basic principles. The private sector, particularly business, has adapted to such a truism that it has left government service more regulatory and less responsive to better public service and incentives.

Stella O. Gonzales

A **United** Front

Partido Manggagawa hopes to bring together the country's fractious working class

ON THE very day that slain labor leader Popoy Lagman was laid to rest, Partido ng Manggagawa or PM was founded, a tribute to the late revolutionary's dream of establishing a political and electoral party of the country's working class. PM, says lead nominee Rep. Renato Magtubo, is "the magic formula that will unite the fragmented labor movement and organize millions of unorganized Filipino workers." It will also work "for the creation of a solid labor vote" that will be PM's main weapon in carrying out its platform.

What is your party's official name and what sector are you supposed to represent?
Our name is Partido ng Manggagawa, or PM, and we seek to represent the interests of the working class.

Who are your nominees and what makes them qualified to represent your group?
The first three nominees are myself, Renato Magtubo, former party-list representative of Sanlakas who is known as the payola whistleblower and a maverick congressman; Victor Briz, union president of Gelmart Industries, one of the biggest garments factories in the country, and as president of Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino is heir-apparent to Popoy Lagman as head of the militant labor center; and Gerry Rivera, acting president of the PALEA and principal petitioner against the 10-year suspension of PAL's CBA.

Magtubo

In one sentence, can you tell us your party's platform or legislative agenda?
The immediate objective of PM is protection for labor while its ultimate aim is the emancipation of workers. We call our minimum platform the "4S of Labor" – sufficient wages, secure jobs, safe working conditions and strong unions.

What makes you the best person to represent the interests of this sector?
First, because I am a true blue worker having been an employee of Fortune Tobacco for 21 years; second, I'm a grassroots labor leader having been president of Fortune Tobacco's labor union for 15 years until the present.

What experiences shaped who you are?
I experienced poverty first hand and learned to survive by fighting. I traveled alone from Bacolod to Manila hoping to find decent work and found hard labor as a factory worker. As a unionist, I saw with my own eyes ordinary men staking their life in strikes and struggles to better their lives.

Whom do you relate to in public life?
I admire Edcel Lagman, former representative of Albay and now running as congressman of the 4th district of Quezon City.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?
The words "leadership by example" and the image of Chino Roces, arms locked with fellow rallyists.

Who are your political role models?
They may all have faults but I look up to Andres Bonifacio for being a valiant nationalist, Crisanto Evangelista for being a committed revolutionary and Lech Walesa for being a courageous labor leader.

What have you done that you are proudest of in your public life?
As former party-list representative of Sanlakas, I exposed the omnibus power bill payola. The corruption in government was common knowledge to all and everybody talked of fighting graft yet nobody had the guts to break the code of silence that existed among the honorable men and women of the House of Representatives.

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

MANUEL "MANNY" B. **VILLAR JR.**

Independent-People Power Coalition

HE CALLS himself a "Tondo boy" who learned "sipag at tiyaga" (industry and perseverance) from his mother, Corita Bamba, a public school teacher. Villar said that at a young age he would wake up at 3 a.m. to accompany his mother at the "pondohan" *to buy fish and shrimps that they would sell in Divisoria to augment the family income. After finishing business administration at the University of the Philippines, he worked as an accountant and financial analyst. He realized he was not cut out to be an employee and he started his own business. He became a housing developer at 26.*

What was the most important decision you made, and what happened?
My decision to go into business. Had I chosen to become an ordinary employee, I wouldn't be where I am now. I ventured into a gravel and sand business with a P10,000 capital and two reconditioned trucks. I started learning about low-cost housing until I established Camella and Palmera Homes, which have become the biggest mass-housing companies in Southeast Asia.

Tell me a time when you voted your conscience in the face of strong public opposition.
When I bolted LAMP, the ruling coalition, in November 2000 and decided to impeach the president. Many of my colleagues were telling me, "No one fights a sitting president."

What have you done in your public life that you are proudest of?
My accomplishments as Speaker of the 11th Congress and my role in the impeachment trial.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?
Good leadership means good organization and proper delegation of responsibilities. It's like a house where the parents lead the children by good example.

What is the most powerful idea you have come across?
To mount an entrepreneurial revolution in the country. We need businesses in the country, to spread and create wealth in the countryside. They need not be big businesses as long as they create jobs for the people. That's why I even encourage government help for the underground economy like fishball/squidball, *balut* vending and the like.

Stella O. Gonzales

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MEMBER. PANA Truth in Advertising

End Page

by Jonathan Best

It's a Material World

To ensure a vibrant national identity, it is crucial to meet foreign influences head on and make sure a balance is worked out so that local culture is not overwhelmed

AS THE PHILIPPINES FOLLOWS WORLD TRENDS AND BECOMES MORE AND MORE URBANIZED AND "GLOBALIZED," A NEW GENERATION IS GROWING UP IN MANILA WITH LITTLE OR NO CONTACT WITH THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT OR NATIONAL FOLK HERITAGE. URBAN POOR, MIDDLE CLASS AND EVEN RICH KIDS HAVE LOST TOUCH WITH WHAT IS INDIGENOUS TO THE PHILIPPINES AND FILIPINO CULTURE. PRODUCTS, FOODS, CRAFTS AND CUSTOMS, WHICH HAVE BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART OF NATIONAL IDENTITY FOR CENTURIES, ARE DISAPPEARING.

Rice paddies are giving way to golf courses and American style housing developments in Manila's suburbs, rivers and beaches are polluted, and traffic is snarled. More and more of what they eat, wear and entertain themselves with is designed or made abroad. Indoor, air-conditioned mall culture has come to dominate rich and middle class people's lives. The urban poor are left to live in expanding slums devoid of any cultural heritage other than their surrounding squalor and what they see on television.

A generation ago Manila's markets were full of native produce, seasonal fruits, flowers and vegetables. One could still swim in Manila Bay, enjoy the sunset and walk around the city without being assaulted by pollution. Now, the supermarkets and roadside stands are overloaded with suspiciously large hybrid grapes, imports from foreign factory farms. Filipino "ethnic" arts and crafts are mass-produced for tourists. International fast food chains and shopping malls with no links at all to Filipino culture dominate many neighborhoods. Everything is factory made and packaged in ridiculous amounts of styrofoam, plastic and paper.

Foreign influences continue to change Filipino Style, as seen in this postcard c.1910

Foreign imports and adaptations are nothing new to the Philippines, but recent developments are different. An invasion of consumer goods and foreign culture is not always a bad thing. Some countries have dealt with it successfully. However, to ensure a vibrant national identity, it is crucial to meet foreign influences head on and make sure a balance is worked out so that local culture is not overwhelmed. An unwavering commitment to national heritage is essential.

Compounding the negative effects of globalization, a lack of city planning has also had a disastrous effect on Manila's heritage. Where other cities have forcefully intervened to protect the quality of life and indigenous customs and heritage sites Filipino leaders have been ambivalent. It has been 55 years since the end of World War II, and Intramuros is still under reconstruction and constantly threatened by illegal developers.

Any city the size of Metro Manila cannot function without well planned and strictly enforced zoning laws and respect for the public domain. Unregulated building projects, careless waste disposal, chaotic traffic, unnecessary air pollution and over-population have all contributed to almost irreversible damage to the city. Beautiful old buildings are torn down at an alarming rate while others are simply left to rot. Parks are overrun with ugly commercial establishments and smoke belching cars and buses park on sidewalks and green spaces. These are problems of ineffectual government not the results of poverty or underdevelopment.

Whether families are rich or poor, the environment cannot support unlimited growth. The rich may be able to support their large brood but their kids end up using a great deal more of the community water supply, fossil fuels and natural resources than the kids of the poor. These same problems have been dealt with effectively in many other democratic countries willing to exert national discipline, change lifestyles and avail themselves of new technologies.

Last year I attended an eloquent program at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, put on by Lory Tan of Bookmark, which called for the preservation of the upland rice culture of the Cordilleras. The famous Rice Terraces are threatened by erosion, and young people are abandoning the farms for the lure of jobs in Manila. In another generation it may be mangoes, lowland rice and even bamboo which will no longer be attractive to cultivate and harvest. How will farming compete with air conditioned factory jobs in Manila paying twice as much? We are already importing rice, sugar and fish. Will the Philippines someday have to import mangoes?

It's not just the indigenous tribes on the fringes of modern society that are being swept aside by "progress." The kids in Forbes Park and Ayala Alabang are losing their national identity at an even faster rate. As wonderful as jet travel, the Internet, born again religions and expensive European cars may be, Filipino parents should ask themselves if they really want their kids to grow up as clones of Southern Californian, Chinese and Japanese pop culture.

When the last *balut* vendor goes screaming off into the night, insane from carbon monoxide poisoning and the din of traffic, wearing a tattered New York Giants tee shirt and *tsinelas* made in China, will the trendy Filipino kids down at McDo's and KFC really care? Or will they all be dreaming of "Baywatch" babes, riding the Southern California freeways and shopping in Hong Kong and Tokyo?

Comments welcome at endpage2000@hotmail.com

This Week

Art

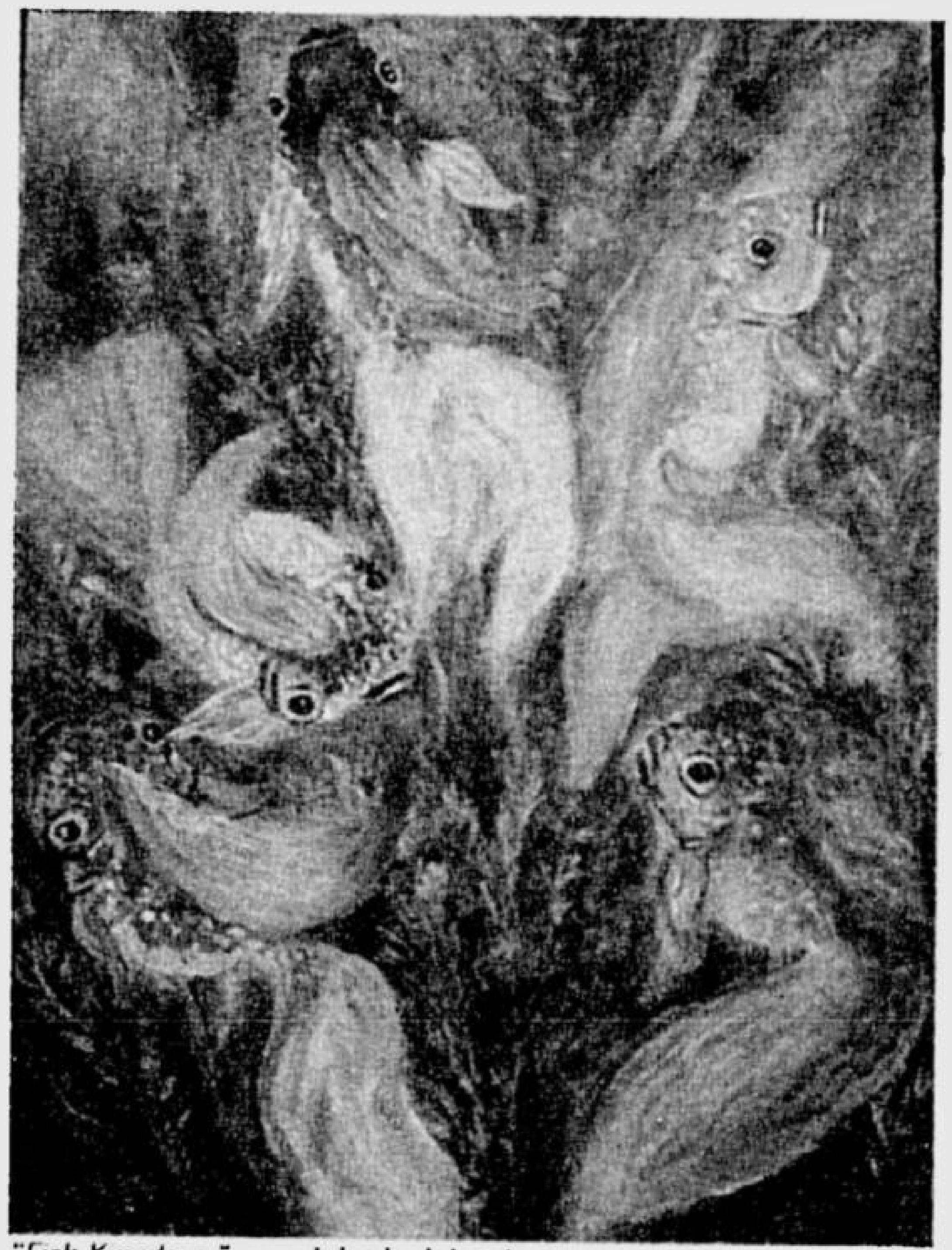
Cornelius G. Breed holds a retrospective of his works titled **Unique Vision** at Galleries A and B, UP Vargas Museum on May 3. Exhibit runs till May 23.

Fish Kingdom, a solo exhibit in oil and acrylic by Julius Limpe until May 1 at West Gallery, Glorietta 4.

Healing Through Colors, a one-woman exhibit of oil paintings representing the inner journey by Cecilia "Ching" Arnaldo Gutierrez. Exhibit runs from April 29 to May 13 at The White Wall, Old Manila, Ang Bahay ng Alumni, UP Diliman.

Sound Design Exhibition features memorabilia from the British music industry like the Beatles, among others until May 19 at the Grand Atrium, 2nd level, Shangri-La Plaza Mall.

Landscape, in Memory, an exhibit of landscapes and genre paintings by Prudencio "Amor" Lamarroza until May 1 at Art Center, SM Megamall and Metropolitan Gallery, Shangri-La Plaza.



"Fish Kingdom," an exhibit by Julius Limpe, ongoing at West Gallery

Onstage

Ibalon, a musical shadow play version of the Bicol epic-folktale, April 30 at the Abelardo Hall, College of Music, UP Diliman and on May 2-3 at Museo Pambata, Roxas Blvd. For inquiries, call 400-5865.

Food

Hotel Inter-Continental Manila offers a special food promotion that combines the refinements of **French cuisine** with the exciting tastes and textures of Australian meats, spices and other food produce at Prince Albert until May 5.

Cravings introduces **The Ice Cream Bar,** a collection of ice cream flavors available to diners, buffet style. Diners can take unlimited trips to the ice cream bar and choose the flavors and add-ons they want. Available at Cravings outlets in Katipunan, Wilson Street, Greenhills, Robinsons Place and Shangri-La Mall.

Spasso, an Italian restaurant, recently opened at 45 Visayas Avenue, Quezon City. Open daily from 11 a.m.-11 p.m. For reservations, call 920-3350 and 920-3750.

Atbp

Workshops on Wheels takes off May 19 with the theme "Poetry in the City." The module is recommended for beginning writers, college students and people in different careers who are thinking about writing. For details, call 752-2737 or email roland@pinoywriters.com.

Splash Island, the country's biggest and state-of-the-art waterpark at Southwoods Ecocentrum, Biñan, Laguna, is offering a summer promo until May 31. For every group of 11, one is free. For inquiries, call 928-0507.

Filipinas Heritage Library will be accepting your old books for the first **book swap session** on May 12. For details, send email to events@fillib.org.ph with "Bookswap Mechanics" in your subject field.

Cinderella, Snow White and Sleeping Beauty come together as the Ayala Malls celebrate **"It's Time to Remember the Magic."** The entertainment package includes a musical meet 'n greet and special attractions with other Disney characters. Schedules are: April 29 and May 1 (Alabang Town Center) and May 4-6 (Ayala Center Cebu).

The Visual Communications Group is now accepting students for the second batch of its annual **visual arts and creative writing workshop.** Basic and advanced lessons in painting using charcoal, watercolor, pastel, oil and mixed media will be offered. Classes start May 1. For details, call 740-7221 or email eyu_1111@yahoo.com.

The Blue Eagles Gymnastics Academy at Ateneo de Manila High School offers **summer gymnastics workshop** for boys and girls until May 26. For inquiries, call 411-9054 and (0917)790-6911.

Summer Workshops: Stage and Voice Performance Training for aspiring performers 7 years old and above; Workshop on Painting and Drawing, Teaching Young Children; Writing (for newspapers, plays and television); Acting (for radio and theater), and Secrets of Singing, a talent enhancement course. To be held at Ali Mall, Araneta Center, QC until May 31. For details, call 911-3101 loc. 8308 and 911-1428.

Silab Video Production Workshop will offer a series of **lectures, film screenings, video and writing exercises and storyboard making** from May 2-31 at the Orange Place, Cravings, Loyola Heights, QC. For details, call (0917)4520077.

The UP Film Center offers **Basic Video Production Workshop** on April 30-May 12. The course consists of lecture demonstrations, screenings and productions of narrative video exercise and a short video documentary. For details, call 926-2722.

Play Art for Toddlers, a new program of Ayala Museum promoting exploration and experimentation of tactile, visual and auditory sensations in a playgroup set-up. Ongoing until May 17. For details, call 812-1191 to 97 loc. 130.

Dulaang Balintataw is accepting applicants for its **summer drama workshops** on May 1-31. Registration on April 29 and May 1 at the basement chapel of the Dept. of Agrarian Reform, Elliptical Road, Quezon Circle, Diliman, QC. For details, call 373-1575.

Alliance Francaise de Manille offers **art workshops** for teens and adults on painting in watercolor and acrylic, mask making, terracotta sculpting, *pastillas* wrapper making, cartooning and basic printmaking. For details, call 895-7585.

Creative Learning School currently offers **painting with acrylic and terracotta sculpting and pottery.** For inquiries, call 633-8412 and 631-4401.

Island Spice invites kids 4-9 years old to join **"My Summer Vacation" drawing contest.** Artworks must be done in any medium in a ¼ piece of illustration board. Deadline is on May 13. Register at Island Spice stores at SM Megamall, Alabang Town Center, Robinsons Place Ermita and Filinvest Festival Mall.

Kinderhaus Learning Center is holding a series of **practical training for teachers:** 101 Teaching Props, Secret Recipes and Concoctions (May 9 and 16); Gearing Up for the Next School Year (May 10 and 17); Make Your Classrooms Come Alive Again (May 11 and 18). Training will be held at 14 Sgt. Esguerra (Bohol Avenue), South Triangle, Quezon City. For details, call 926-6244 and 924-2140.

X-manila

Etchings, a solo exhibit by Bencab at the Sanctuary Gallery at Maryknoll, Campo Sioco, Baguio City until May 16.

Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority presents Dramatis Personae's **"Perpetrators,"** a tragic farce on the sexual abuse of children, on May 4-6. For details, call 724-2132 and 718-1536.

The **Tam-awan Village Artists** will conduct workshops in basic drawing and painting, watercolor, oil pastel, printmaking, monoprint, T-shirt painting, ethnic dance, theater and arnis from April 30-May 3 in Baguio City. For details, call (074)446-2949.

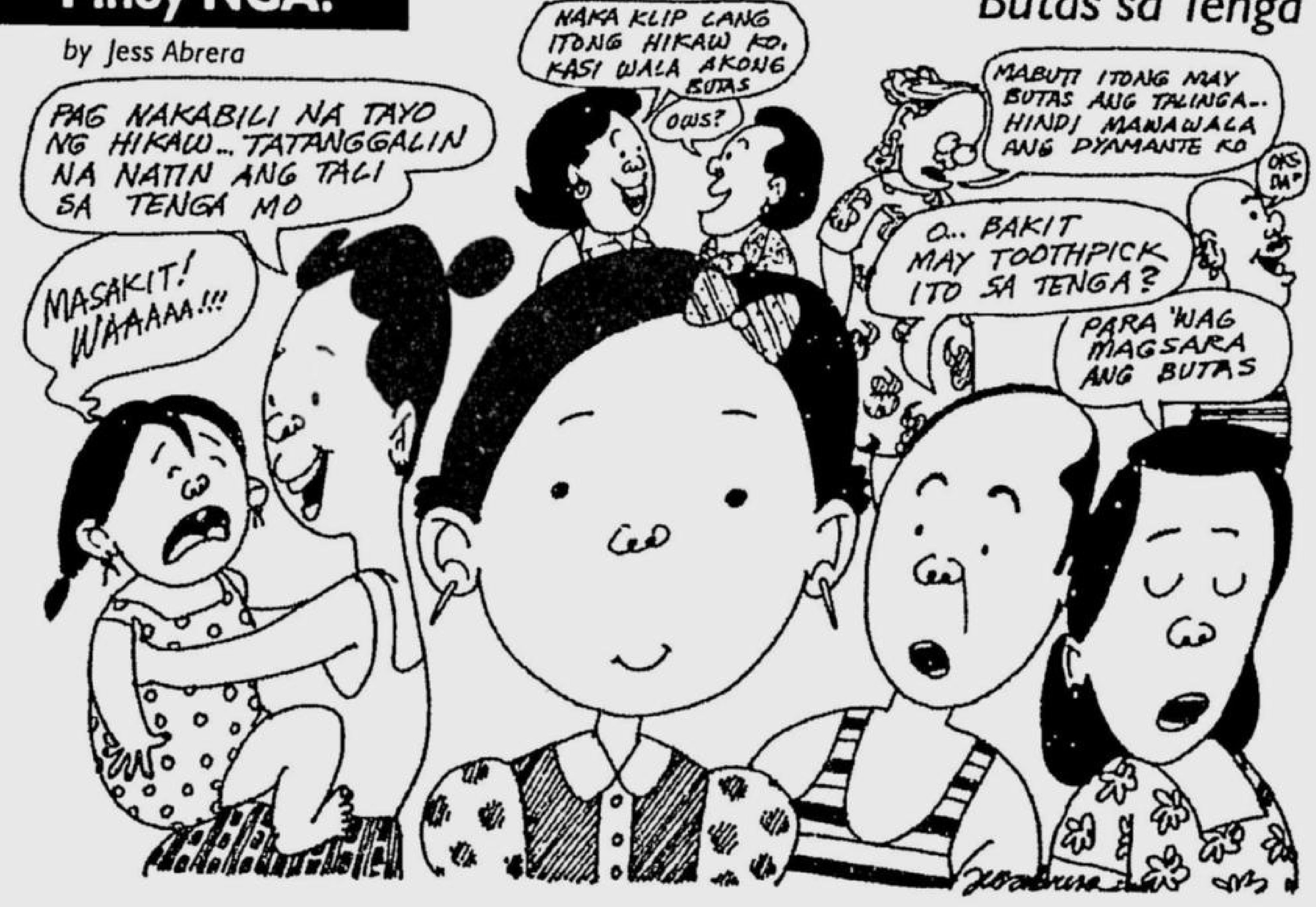
Art Camp, a three-day interaction with renowned artists, will be held from May 25-27 at Alpadi Resort, Antipolo, Rizal. Open to teeners and young professionals. For details, call 913-8991 and 439-1242 or e-mail art_camp@egroups.com.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Butas sa Tenga



PAG NAKABILI NA TAYO NG HIKAW... TATANGGALIN NA NATIN ANG TALI SA TENGA MO
MASAKIT! WAAAAA!!!
NAKA KLIP LANG ITONG HIKAW KO. KASI WALA AKONG BUTAS
OWS?
MABUTI ITONG MAY BUTAS ANG TALINGA.. HINDI MAWAWALA ANG DYAMANTE KO
OKS DA?
O... BAKIT MAY TOOTHPICK ITO SA TENGA?
PARA 'WAG MAGSARA ANG BUTAS

Be thinner! A discovery: Spirulina that burns fats.

Now you can lose at least 3 kilos per week without dieting–and with a guarantee*

While distilling fresh algae, two French scientists discovered a substance that activates metabolism and makes one slimmer. As you may have read in the papers or seen on television, when metabolism is activated, the body burns the excess fats that are stored in it.

Find out below how you can receive Spirulina treatment for a free trial. And why you can lose 3 kilos per week without strict dieting. Even if you eat so much.

It's a fact. The moment you begin your Spirulina treatment, you don't stop losing kilos and inches of your body fats. Because the substances contained in these capsules of algae are going to stimulate your metabolism and in fact:

1) prevent the storage of new fats.

2) reduce accumulation of water and dissolve already formed fatty cells.

How does it work?

It's very simple: while taking a capsule of Spirulina just with one glass of water, 2 times per day, you create in your body a burning power that forces you to get thinner even though you continue to eat as usual. Therefore, your weight decreases automatically and permanently. The unsightly bulges disappear. And you lose between 3 and 4 kilos per week.

- No extra effort to exert.
- No tedious dieting.
- No exercises to make.

Why would these famous capsules of Spirulina be then more effective than the other methods or capsules that you may have already tried?

That can be explained by the fact that when you take a capsule of Spirulina 15 minutes before every meal, calorie absorption stops. The mixture of Spirulina with your food cleanses your body and burns fats instead of accumulating them.

Besides, Spirulina accelerates the process of digestion, thus preventing what you eat to be stored and added to your weight.

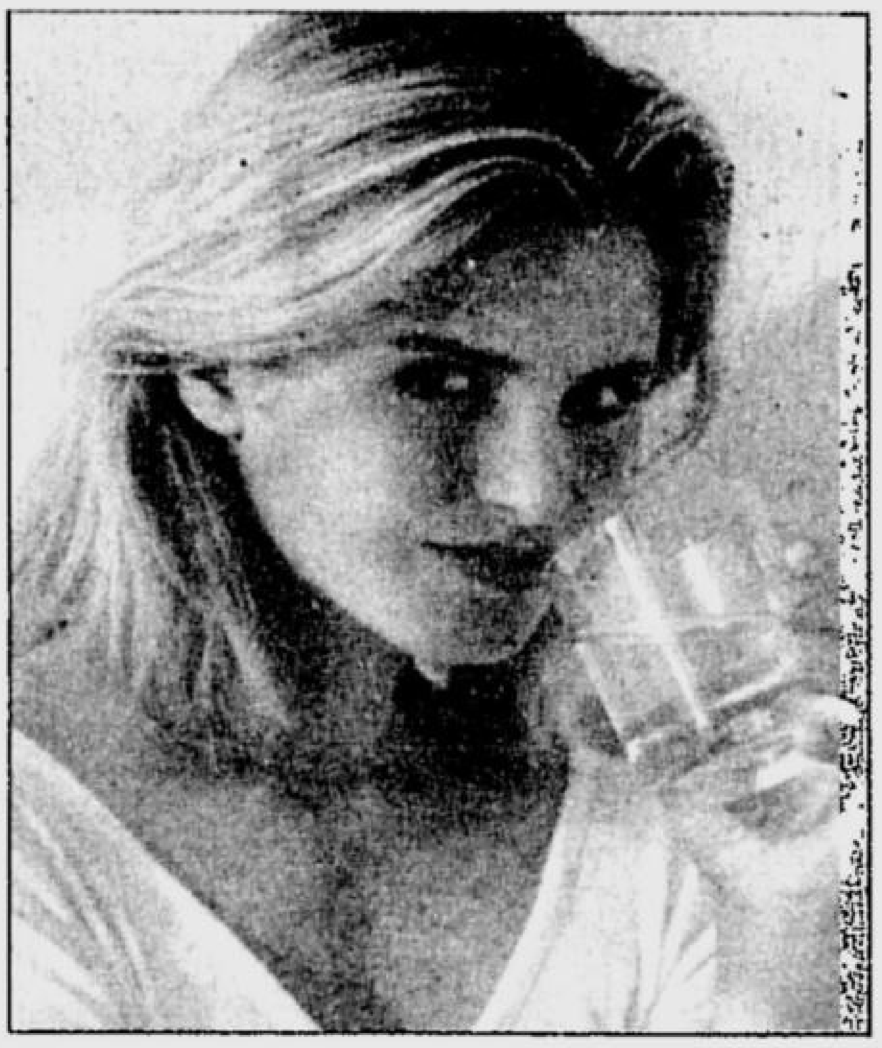
Authentic proofs

In several countries where these capsules are distributed, loss of 10 kilos in weight within 2 weeks is very frequent observation. This has been confirmed by thalassotherapy centers that prescribe treatments of Spirulina to women who have already tried everything, yet in vain.

Here are just some of what they say:

"Throughout the period of this treatment I felt in perfect shape, I didn't feel tired even if I got thinner by 15 kilos."

"It has been 9 months since I went through the treatment of Spirulina. I confirm that not a single kilo of the 12 that I lost came back."



Discover here how this simple action 2 times a day can make you lose all your excess body weight.

What you need to know about Spirulina

- Spirulina is especially recommended to people who have at least 5 or more kilos to lose. Do you have to lose an excess of 5 kilos or more?

- Although it gets every part of your body thinner, it has been observed that Spirulina is more effective for people whose excess body fats are accumulated within the hips and thigh area. Is this also true in your case?

- Spirulina has been proven to be more effective in women than in men. Although men can also get thinner, the process is quite slower due to their hormonal difference.

If despite your efforts, despite everything you may have tried before, you have never succeeded in either getting thinner or maintaining a normal weight. or if at the least food intake, you easily gain 1 or 2 kilos... find out how Spirulina treatment can make you, yourself, get thinner too, even if you go on with your eating habits as usual.

"I thought I'd remain so fat all my life. I had tried everything before. This treatment made me lose 15 kilos and I have recovered my self-confidence because I'm now enjoying my life."

"Six kilos lost in one week. It works like a miracle."

Finally, an effective means to lose all your excess weight

Probably you've always had the tendency to get fat (particularly in the lower portion of your body). Maybe in your family, the women have always been somehow stronger. Now, you need not worry anymore.

Whatever is your nature, it is certain that with this treatment you're going to lose the unwanted kilos that you have in excess.

All those who tried it got thinner... Some used to weigh 5 kilos in excess and lost them. Others had 10 kilos to lose and got rid of them. Still others lost up to 25 kilos of excess body weight.

What is surprising is that you begin to get thinner even within the first days of this treatment. You lose (depending on your body makeup) between 3 and 4 kilos per week, and regularly.

In addition, this works until you reach what the doctors call your "ideal body weight".

Additional advantage: Toward the third day of your treatment, you will feel better, more at ease, more relaxed, you will sleep peacefully... while at the same time, getting thinner yet eating the way you are used to.

Take advantage of this very special offer

Never in the past has been a means or method to get you thinner as powerful and as fast. We are the first to offer it to you because these algae extracts are not available in any drugstore in the Philippines.

When they saw how I got thinner, they couldn't believe their own eyes.

... "My husband used to abandon me; he was ashamed of my body figure."

... "Today, I am comfortable with my skin and feeling more attractive."

"It was after a chance meeting with a physician's wife that I succeeded in losing 20 kilos while continuing to eat as usual. She explained to me that she had gotten thinner thanks to this treatment, And without dieting, I told myself that it wouldn't ever work for me. Nonetheless, I tried, perhaps out of curiosity. I took a capsule in one glass of water at noon and in the evening. On the fifth day I went up on a weighing scale the needle pointed 79 kilos. In short, I had lost 4 kilos in just 5 days. Yet, while eating as usual as I was used to.

I continued to take my capsules regularly and remained getting thinner. In all, I lost 20 kilos. And that is only for a period of two months and half. It happened in September 1992, and since then, I've gained back not even a hundred grams of it. And now I can finally flaunt my pretty dresses and look elegant."

That's precisely why we invite you to receive a complete treatment for you to try it out at your own home for 30 days.

This way, you can take your own time to find out for yourself the diminishing centimeters in your waistline, hips, thighs and stomach. You will also notice on weighing scale and in the mirror how much of the excess kilos in your body weight has gone away.

Guarantee

If you are not completely satisfied with your weight loss and with the fact that you will not gain more weight back, simply inform us by sending the package and the remaining unused treatment within 30 days following receipt of your package. In this case, I formally guarantee to send you immediately a refund of the amount you paid for the treatment with no questions asked.

You may therefore try it out even out of curiosity because you don't risk losing anything... even a single peso. Send us back the *No-Risk Free-Trial Coupon* below right now before you forget all about it.

COUPON FOR FREE TRIAL

Please mail immediately back to:
MAIL SHOPPING INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
303 Munro Bldg., 612 Pinatubo St., 1550
Mandaluyong City, M.M.

YES. I am interested in your invitation for a free trial entirely at your own risks and without any obligation on my part. It is understood that:

1) I must lose between 3 or 4 kilos per week until I reach my "ideal body weight'
2) I must get thinner without going through any form of dieting, only while taking a capsule of Spirulina 15 minutes before every meal.
3) You officially guarantee that Spirulina is a 100% natural product based on algae and contains no chemical or pharmacological substances.
4) If I am not completely satisfied with my body weight loss and by the fact that I will not regain more weight thereafter, I can advise you by simply sending back the package with the remaining treatment within 30 days following my receipt thereof. In this case, you formally agree to send me immediately a refund of my payment for my package with absolutely no questions asked.

Under these conditions, please send me the Spirulina cure that I choose as follows:

☐ Double Spirulina cure, quantity enough to lose between 8 and 12 kilos for only P1,885.00 + P55 P&H = P1,940.00
☐ Normal Spirulina cure, quantity enough to lose between 5 and 8 kilos for only P1,185.00 + P55 P&H = P1,240.00
☐ Extra-strength Spirulina cure, quantity enough to lose more than 15 kilograms at a price of only P2,585.00 + P55 P&H= P2,640.00
☐ In addition to my treatment, I also order a tube of refinement gel made of Special Algae to accelerate the thinning and reshaping of my hips and thighs at a price of P995.00

☐ **Bankard** ☐ ☐ VISA

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☐ I prefer to pay C.O.D. through the Phil. Postal Corp. upon receipt of my package even if it costs me an additional P60.
☐ Whatever form of payment I choose, I wish to be served with absolute priority. I therefore tick this box and add P50 to my payment.

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* Of not paying anything if you don't lose all your excess weight.